



THE Fisherman

75¢

— THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION —

October 24th—30th, 1985
Volume 20, Number 42

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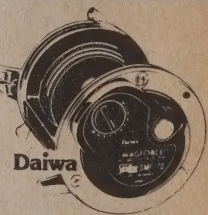
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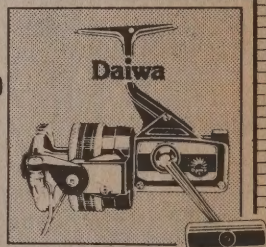
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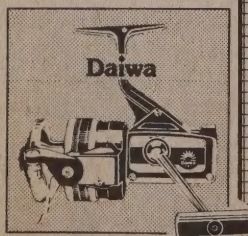
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THE

Fisherman

— THE LONG ISLAND, METROPOLITAN NEW YORK EDITION —

Volume 20, Number 42

October 24th, 1985

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ABOUT THE COVER:

New York's Salmon River steelhead run attracts hordes of Long Island and Metro area anglers to the region. If you're among the faithful, you'll find some expert advice on how to improve your score with these tough customers on page 28 of this week's issue. Cover photo by Dick Mermon.

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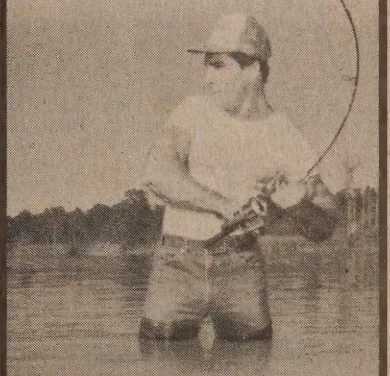
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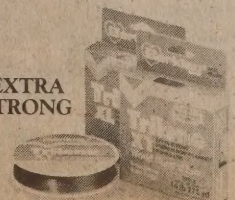
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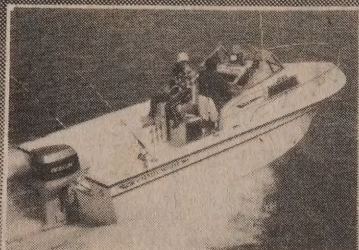
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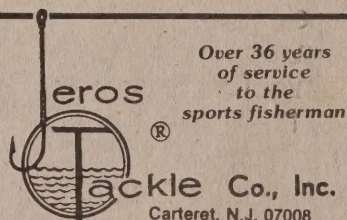
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SFI HIRES NEW DIRECTOR OF ECONOMICS: WILL USE ECONOMIC DATA TO STRENGTHEN SPORT FISHING IN THE U.S.

The Sport Fishing Institute (SFI) is pleased to announce the appointment of David B. Rockland, Ph.D., as its new Director of Economics. Dr. Rockland will be responsible for developing the Sport Fishing Economics Data Center at SFI. Dr. Rockland will identify, collect, analyze, interpret and disseminate economic data that are relevant to sport fishing for use by SFI and the entire sport fishing community.

More specifically, Dr. Rockland will provide expertise on the proper application of sport fishing economics in legislative testimony, and develop "extension" services to sport fishing advocacy groups on fishery economic techniques and data bases. He also will integrate the Sport Fishing Economic Data Center into SFI's other programs.

Gil Radonski, President of SFI, commented, "The Board of Directors and staff of SFI are very excited by our appointment of Dr. Rockland to head our new Economics program. SFI is responding to the needs of the sport fishing community by establishing the Sport Fishing Economics Data Center. SFI's strongest arguments for fair treatment of sport fishing programs have occurred when hard economic facts, which are necessary to define cost-benefit ratios and determine sport fishing's impact, were available and used to support our case."

Dr. J. Frank Cogdell, Jr., Chairman of the Board of SFI and head of the Stren Fishing Line Division of duPont, remarked, "The Sport Fishing Economics Data Center is urgently needed because decisions made over the next several years affecting the sport fishery resource will be in the hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars. Through the use of sound economic data, SFI should be able to enlist broad-based support for greater governmental investment in the common property fishery resource, based on the premise that such investments will provide a several-fold rate of return."

Dr. Rockland was previously employed as a project manager and senior economist with Centaur Associates, Inc., in Washington, D.C. At Centaur, Dr. Rockland was the principal investigator on the study entitled, "Economic Activity Associated with Marine Recreational Fishing in 1980," prepared for SFI. In addition, Dr. Rockland conducted and directed several studies involving economic impact assessment and evaluation related to fisheries and other environmental issues. Prior to his employment with Centaur, Dr. Rockland was

a private consultant to Delaware's Division of Fish and Wildlife and Department of Parks and Recreation, and the University of Delaware.

Dr. Rockland completed a Ph.D. in Marine Studies/Resource Economics and an M.A. in Economics at the University of Delaware. He received a B.A. in Economics from Rutgers University. His doctoral dissertation, an economic evaluation analysis of the recreational and commercial fisheries in Delaware, was used to resolve conflicts between the two user groups.

The Sport Fishing Institute, founded in 1949 and headquartered in Washington, D.C., is the nation's premier conservation organization focusing on creating more and better sport fishing opportunities through education, research, professional service, advocacy and training programs.

SANDY HOOK CELEBRATES ANNUAL OPEN HOUSE, 1985

The Sandy Hook Laboratory of the National Marine Fisheries Service, will hold its 15th Annual Open House on Friday, October 25, 1985. This fisheries research laboratory, directed by Mr. Stuart Wilk, is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year and will be open to the public from 9AM to 4PM. Exhibits will be on display in Building 74 at Sandy Hook and visitors will be able to tour through the various laboratory working areas where specimens will be displayed and research activities discussed and questions answered. Research topics focus on studies of commercial and recreational fisheries and marine resources of the Middle Atlantic region as well as assessing impacts of man's activities on the marine environment.

There will be exhibits of scientific sampling gear as well as commercial net and lobster pot construction techniques. The younger set will have a "hands-on" marine animal touch tank available. Special tanks will hold sea turtle hatchlings and moray eels.

A sequence of movies featuring diving, fish and shellfish, estuaries and heavy weather themes will be shown throughout the day. Mr. Jack Casey, a Marine Scientist from the NMFS Narragansett Laboratory, will review shark research in a slide presentation at 10AM and 1:30PM. In addition, a seafood cooking specialist from the Fulton Fish Market will demonstrate methods of cooking squid and mussels, with samples for tasting.

Other marine-oriented organizations participating in the event include: The New Jersey Marine Sciences Consortium, Gateway National Recreation Area, Brookdale Community College, American Littoral Society, U.S. Coast Guard Oil

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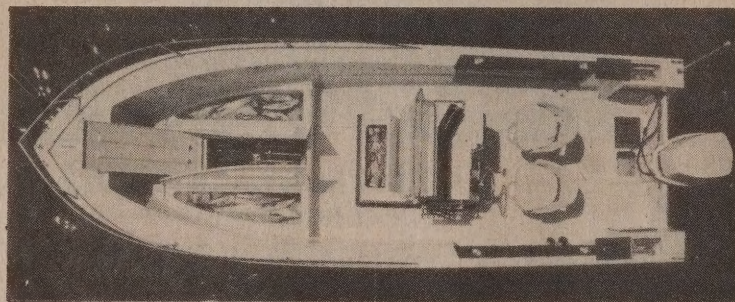
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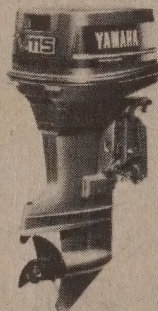
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and Pollution Response Team, Marine Academy of Science and Technology and the Sandy Hook Child Care Center.

The Laboratory is located near the tip of Sandy Hook. Signs will be placed to direct the public through the Gateway National Recreation area to the Laboratory parking areas.

Past attendance has been quite large and visitors should allow approximately one hour to complete the tour. If you have any questions regarding the program, please contact Ms. Cathy Noonan at (201) 872-0200, Ext. 205.

**SHAKESPEARE INTRODUCES
THE CANT TWIST REEL**

Shakespeare Fishing Tackle solves line twist problems with the new Shakespeare Cant Twist (TM) Reel!

The dual drag system gives fishermen two reels in one. The first drag is Shakespeare's super-smooth multi-disc stern drag, for use in normal position and under light line conditions. When the time comes to really test drag performance, simply switch the anti-reverse lever and try Shakespeare's new Line Saver Drag. With the spool locked, the Line Saver Drag lets the rotor do the work, and the line comes off the reel the same way that it was put on: *straight*.

The Cant Twist Reel features stainless steel ball bearings, machine cut brass pinion gear, zinc main gear, silent anti-reverse, and a free turning roller guide. Also featured are the selective internal bail trip, a carbon steel main shaft, right/left retrieve and pop-off spool with line clip.

The Cant Twist Reel offers two superior reels in one—and ends line twist forever!

**NEW GUN CLUB SITE OFFERS
SAFETY AND CONVENIENCE**

On Sunday, October 13, 1985, at 10AM, the East End's newest sports facility opened its gates. Nestled amidst a 100-acre woodland site, the Maidstone Gun Club's new facility will offer four custom built ranges for competitive target shooting: trap and skeet ranges for shotgun enthusiasts, plus 100 yard and 200 yard rifle ranges with 50 and 75 foot pistol ranges with covered firing points. The brand-new Clubhouse will offer space for meetings on the first floor, and an indoor pistol range is planned for the 30 by 100 foot basement area.

Demonstrations by Club Members will be scheduled on all ranges. The public is invited to come and watch the experts, and to get a firsthand look at what is destined to be the finest shooting facility on the Eastern Seaboard. Designed in cooperation with the National Rifle Association, the facility is the result of a six-year-long effort by Club members and community leaders.

Financed entirely by club members' contributions and loans, the secluded site has been cleared and prepared in members' spare time. Evenings and weekends have seen work parties

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hammering, shovelling and sawing. Community leaders have pitched in with their own efforts, smoothing the way through bureaucratic red tape when necessary. Local business people—farmers, plumbers, electricians, carpenters, lawyers, dentists and bankers—have given time, materials, and good advice. Club President Dan O'Sullivan has maintained constant contact with Town officials and others, and has supervised the project from its inception. This has been truly a community effort.

For information, call 324-2547. Please come!

NEW GENERAL MANAGER AT LONG BEACH MARINELAND

Sonny Panzarella has been appointed General Manager at the Marineland Complex in Long Beach, where he will now be responsible for all facets of sales, service, and the marina itself.

Sonny used to be sales manager for Aquasport down in Florida, but joined Marineland several years back as sales manager, boosting boat sales there to new heights.

BERKLEY ESTABLISHES BERKLEY FUTURE FISHERMAN FOUNDATION

"The future of fishing depends upon our investment today," predicted Tom Bedell, president of Berkley. At AFTMA's annual trade show, Berkley announced the formation of a new foundation committed to passing on from parents to kids to their kids, the thrill and enjoyment of fishing.

Berkley is making an initial grant of \$100,000 to Berkley's Future Fisherman Foundation to initiate efforts with federal and conservation organizations, state agencies, community and service groups, and others to promote education and participation in fishing, as well as the protection and enhancement of our aquatic resources.

"Fishing is an activity that can be learned by four-year-olds and taught by eighty-four year olds," Bedell announced in addressing the St. Louis Cardinal fans during AFTMA's night at the baseball game. "As an industry we must invest in the future. We must help parents learn how to share the fishing experience with their families. We must work more closely with federal and state agencies and conservation organizations."

As a non-profit organization, Berkley's Future Fisherman Foundation will work with well known entertainers, sports personalities, and public leaders to promote the benefits of fishing.

"All of us associated with fishing must combine our efforts to increase the number of people who fish, how often they go fishing, and the protection and enhancement of our aquatic resources. We are excited to announce the founding of Berkley's Future Fisherman Foundation as a non-commercial effort to work with all facets of our industry to promote fishing."

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A SURE CATCH-FISHING BY DEGREES!

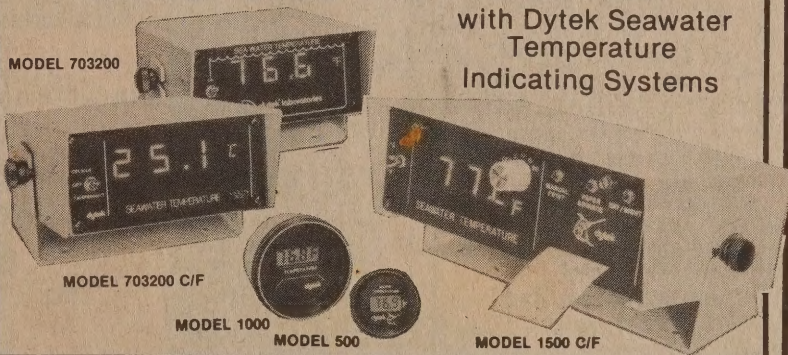
It is now firmly established the seawater temperature is a factor in raising the productivity of a day's fishing. For over 20 years, Dytek Laboratories has been working with the commercial and recreational fishing industry to develop the most reliable and sophisticated seawater temperature systems available today. The ability to record temperature data over large cruising areas and to locate warm water edges is now practical, and at the same time, you can have instant surface water temperature readings at various locations aboard a fishing vessel.

SALTWATER SPORTFISH TEMPERATURE CHART

Species	°F Range	°F Nominal	Species	°F Range	°F Nominal
Albacore	59-66	64	King Mackerel	70-88	75
Amberjack	60-72	65	Permit	70-82	72
Atlantic Bonito	60-80	64	Pollock	33-60	45
Atlantic Cod	31-59	44-49	Red Drum	59-82	71
Atlantic Mackerel	45-70	63	Red Snapper	50-62	57
Barracuda	69-82	75-79	Sailfish	70-88	79
Bigeye Tuna	52-66	58	Skipjack Tuna	50-70	62
Blackfin Tuna	70-82	74	Snook	60-80	70-75
Black Marlin	68-87	75-79	Striped Bass	40-82	55
Bluefin Tuna	50-78	68	Striped Marlin	61-80	70
Bluefish	50-84	66-72	Swordfish	50-78	66
Blue Marlin	70-88	78	Tarpon	70-82	76
Bonfish	70-82	75	Weakfish	55-78	70
Dolphinfish	70-82	75	White Marlin	65-80	70
Fluke (Summer Flounder)	56-72	66	Winter Flounder	38-64	48-52
Haddock	36-52	47	Yellowfin Tuna	64-80	72
Horn Shark	65-75	75	Yellowtail	60-70	65

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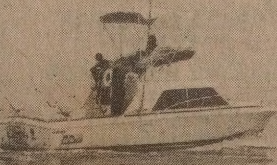
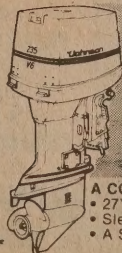


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NEW YORK SURF FISHING CONTEST STANDINGS

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CLUB STANDINGS —

CLUB	BASS	BLUE	WEAK	TOTAL
1. Gateway Striper Club	216	365	153	734
2. Farragut Striper Club	232	180	212	624
3. Patchogue Fishing Club	96	213	146	455
4. Mid Island Surfcasters	110	218	81	409
5. High Hill Striper Club	115	68	168	351
6. Great South Bay Anglers	144	48	102	294
7. Striper Surf Club	151	73	0	224
8. East End Surf Club	10	44	135	189
9. Empire Striper Club	0	0	0	0

HEAVIEST STRIPED BASS—Individual Standings

ANGLER	WEIGHT	CLUB
1. R. Brown	48 pounds, 10 ounces	FSC
2. F. Golofaro	46 pounds, 8 ounces	GSBA
3. P. Cilento	30 pounds, 0 ounces	PFC

HEAVIEST BLUEFISH—Individual Standings

ANGLER	WEIGHT	CLUB
1. R. Buss	18 pounds, 0 ounces	MIS
2. N. Slueter	16 pounds, 8 ounces	GSBA
3. O. VanHelmond	14 pounds, 15 ounces	PFC

HEAVIEST WEAKFISH—Individual Standings

ANGLER	WEIGHT	CLUB
1. T. Booker	15 pounds, 8 ounces	GSC
2. J. Fritz	13 pounds, 0 ounce	FSC
2. G. Just	12 pounds, 6 ounces	EES

MOST POINTS OVERALL—Individual Top 20

ANGLER	CLUB	BASS	BLUE	WEAK	TOTAL
1. O. VanHelmond	PFC	56	174	94	324
2. J. McKay	GSC	128	140	18	286
3. J. Fritz	FSC	31	72	77	180
4. K. Kassan	FSC	115	19	29	163
5. T. Booker	GSC	0	72	81	153
6. J. Augeri	GSC	11	93	34	138
7. F. Schwab	HHS	23	0	97	120
8. F. Golofaro	GSBA	58	14	42	114
9. D. Meola	EES	0	39	69	108
10. S. Pantaleone	FSC	12	37	43	92
11. R. Hummell	HHS	55	17	17	89
12. W. Smith	HHS	19	26	36	81
13. W. Miller	MIS	50	16	12	78
14. F. Eike	MIS	0	60	13	73
15. R. Brown	FSC	62	0	10	72
16. C. Sztorc	SSC	29	36	0	65
17. D. Palmer	MIS	0	55	6	61
18. N. Sluiter	GSBA	12	27	16	55
19. P. Cilento	PFC	30	22	0	52
20. R. Buss	MIS	0	52	0	52

RELEASED FISH POINTS—Top 3 Clubs

1. Gateway Striper Club	708 points
2. High Hill Striper Club	336 points
3. Mid Island Surfcasters	289 points

WOMEN'S DIVISION—Heaviest of Species

S. Brooks	EES	Weakfish	5 pounds, 8 ounces
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CHILDREN'S DIVISION—Heaviest of Species

G. Cooke III	MIS	Striped Bass	12 pounds, 0 ounces
G. Cooke III	MIS	Bluefish	15 pounds, 5 ounces
G. Cooke III	MIS	Weakfish	9 pounds, 8 ounces

OUT OF STATE STRIPED BASS—Top 3 Clubs

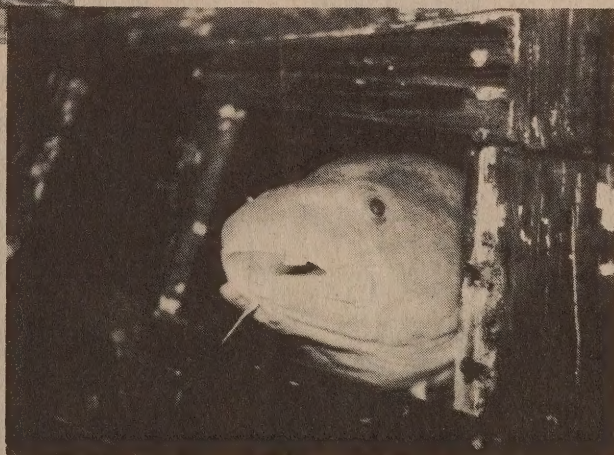
1. Patchogue Fishing Club	428 points
2. Striper Surf Club	207 points
3. Gateway Striper Club	69 points

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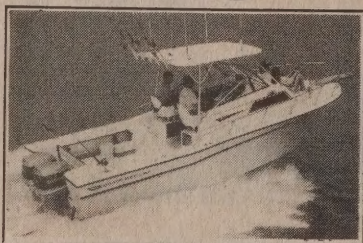
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★ PRODUCT REVIEW ★

HUMMINBIRD LCR SOUNDER

by Eric Burnley

The tremendous advances in the computer industry have carried over into marine electronics and the Humminbird LCR Depth Sounders are a perfect example of this technology brought to the recreational fisherman. The LCR's use microcomputers to store and interpret the information received from the transducer, then display this information on a liquid crystal screen.

This past summer I had an LCR 3000 on my boat and once I became acquainted with its operation I found it easy to use and it improved my fishing success. The LCR's have so many features and capabilities that you are constantly discovering new ways to use them.

The unit is metal with a tough black

finish that resists corrosion. The left side of the face is the display screen looking somewhat like a small TV with tiny dots showing the bottom and any fish in-between.

The right side of the face puts all control buttons in order for easy operation. There's the obvious power "on/off" switch and a backlight switch for night fishing. The display can be reversed to take a second look at a certain structure or fish reading before it is lost on the screen. Other controls are for adjusting the sensitivity, zooming, display speed and manual override of some of the automatic features.

I found the zoom mode to be one of the more useful features. When fishing for bottom feeders, I would



engage the zoom and set it to display ten feet above the bottom. As I drifted along I would see marks displayed just above the bottom and this display was usually followed by a hook-up. When the zoom is engaged, target separation is 1½ inches, so even bottom hugging weeds showed up on the screen.

It always takes awhile to get used to a new piece of equipment but the very first time I used the LCR it produced. I had taken two friends who don't do a lot of fishing out for the day. I set up a drift and turned on the LCR. The first display indicated marks about three feet off the bottom in 10 feet of water. I instructed my friends to cast bucktails behind the boat and both were immediately into bluefish.

The Automatic Mode of the LCR is quite a help, especially for those who are new to depth finders. In this mode all adjustments of sensitivity and speed control are automatic. As you become more familiar with the unit you can go to manual control and adjust the sensitivity and speed to suit your situation.

For instance, the sensitivity in Auto may not be high enough to locate single small fish. In Manual Mode, you can increase the sensitivity until you locate your quarry. You can also use the Manual Mode to determine the type of bottom because the lower part of the screen is not blacked out and the thickness of the bottom return will tell you if it is soft or hard. A thick return indicates a hard bottom; a thin return, a soft bottom.

In 1986, the LCR 3000 will be replaced by the LCR 4000D. The only problem I encountered with my unit was interference with the VHF radio. The LCR 4000D eliminates this situation.

There will also be a new LCR 8000 available after the first of the year. It has split screen display and storage of up to 16 half screens in a permanent memory bank. An optional water temperature display is available with the LCR 8000 which will give you all the information you will ever need about what is under your boat.

Check with your local dealer or plan to visit a Humminbird display at one of the winter boat or sport fishing shows to see the complete line. Besides the 4000 and 8000, there are also the 1000, 2000 portable and special versions of both the 4000 and 8000 for deep water fishing.

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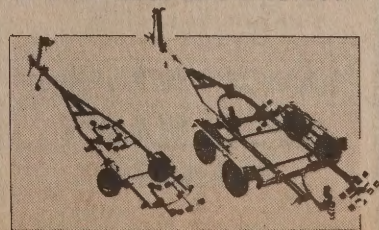
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SUMMER DOCKAGE • WINTER STORAGE

THE TACKLE DOCTOR

by Russ Wilson

Dear Doc,

Last August, I purchased a Penn 650 SS spinning reel with an extra spool for close to \$70. I've always found Penn to be tops in performance and service, besides being American made. This one turned out to be such a lemon that I do not know whether it needs a Tackle Doctor or a mortician!

I saw immediately that the pick-up on the spool was defective. The tackle dealer suggested I return it to the service department at Penn, which I did. In due course, the reel was returned with a note explaining the short shaft had been replaced. The line was laid on the spool exactly as before.

It would seem logical that I should be given a new reel for there is something radically wrong with this one. They could then conduct an autopsy on it to find out where they have failed.

Have you heard of similar problems with the 650 SS? If you were in my shoes, what would you do from this point on? I am stymied and would appreciate your help. *Edward J. Haring.*

Dear Edward,

Your letter (condensed greatly), is the first complaint we've had concerning the Penn 650 SS, or for that matter, any of the Penn spinning reels.

To answer your question, we called Mr. Mesunas directly and were immediately notified he had ALREADY sent you a brand new 650 SS to resolve the situation. This is the policy Penn Tackle has always had, and it has kept them in business through many years.

I do hope you are satisfied with your new 650 SS. But, we had nothing to do with your receiving the replacement reel; that was strictly standard operating procedure on Penn's part.

If anyone is to get credit for settling your complaint, it is Mr. Mesunas.

* * *

Dear Doc,

I really enjoyed your columns through the five years I've been a subscriber to The Fisherman and I'll go along with whatever you suggest as a possible solution to my problem.

I am totally new to blackfishing and really do not know exactly how to catch these rocky bottom inhabitants. What kind of tackle do I need, which of the hook styles is best suited to

blackfishing and what are the best baits to use? Thank you in advance for your assistant. *Mickey Connors.*

Dear Mickey,

You fail to mention if you will be fishing from a party boat or from a private craft. There is a difference. On the party boats I'd suggest slightly heavier tackle for you must have enough control over your fish to keep the line from tangling with other paying passengers. If you will be doing most of your blackfishing from a private boat you can go lighter and still maintain some control over the fish.

We use a "beefy" 7 foot popping type rod, mid-size conventional reel and 17 lb. test monofilament or 20 lb. test dacron line when fishing for blackfish on broken bottom grounds. This is plenty strong and can power bigger tog off the bottom without too much trouble.

Our present blackfish rod is a custom built job that was based on a Shakespeare blank (12 = 360) and fitted with aluminum oxide ring type guides and Hypalon grips. It can handle weights of up to six ounces without too much effort.

Your hook style will depend on which bait you are using. When we bait with fiddler crab we tend to go with the standard Virginia style hook in a No. 5 through 7, but when baiting with green crabs, we usually go with the beak style hook in a 1 or 2/0 since the fuller bend allows us to push the hook into one claw hole and out another.

I don't think there's much argument when it comes to baits. For shallow water blackfishing it is hard to beat fresh sand bugs. This means water depths of less than 30 feet. For mid-depth fishing we prefer green or fiddler crab and for ultra-deep fishing (water depths of up to 90 feet), we go strictly with green crab. This does not rule out clam necks, small pieces of clam or short strips of squid for those times when blackfish want a change of menu.

Your terminal tackle for blackfishing on party boats will be the same, but your rod, reel and line must be strong. Line testing at 20 to 25 lbs. are not too heavy when fishing from a crowded head boat and rods that can handle weights of up to 10 oz. are suf-

ficient for most bottom fishing along the North Atlantic Seaboard.

Blackfish are tricky to hook. Their quickness when hitting a bait and their knack of getting back into a wreck or snag once hooked make them an ideal fish. You will find that many hits will be missed until you get the "feel" of striking at the exact moment, but that is all part of bottom fishing and may be the reason so many experienced saltwater anglers favor it above other kinds of ocean and bay angling.

Dear Doc,

I've got a problem that I can't solve, no matter how hard I try. The problem is parts. To be more specific, parts for old reels.

I have dozens of old knuckle-dusters, star drag models, narrow spool and wide spool conventionals and loads of spinning reels for fresh and salt water that I've collected through the years (1945 to present). Some are older than 1945.

I'd like to get some of them back in working condition, but don't know who to contact for the necessary parts. Any help you can offer is deeply appreciated.

John Little.

Dear John,

You fail to mention the brand name of those reels. If any of them are being made by a manufacturer that is currently retailing their products you should be able to get the necessary parts direct from the manufacturer.

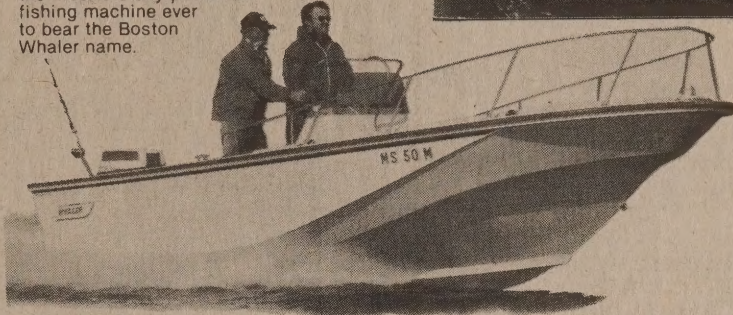
I'd guess those narrow and wide spool conventionals were originally sold by Penn Fishing Tackle. They do keep an up-to-date parts warehouse at their Philadelphia offices. Other companies may have fallen by the wayside. Those old spinning mills dating back to the mid or late forties are more than likely outdated. You might find parts, but I do have doubts. Any reel that is currently available should have a complete parts listing (in the manual that comes with each reel) or you can write the companies direct. Give the part model number if available. If not, try to describe exactly what you need.

The "knuckle-dusters" reels which do not have the star drag feature are certainly outdated. Some tackle shops that specialize in reel repair may have old parts lying around gathering dust, but I am sure you won't be able to order from the manufacturer since some companies, namely, Pflueger and Ocean City, are no longer in business.

I'd keep the reels even if they are not in perfect working order. Many of the early models are now considered "collectibles" and demand premium prices from collectors. Since you have already paid for the reels and gotten use from them, you have nothing to lose by hanging onto them for awhile longer. You never know, you might have one or two that are already worth considerably more than you originally paid.

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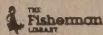
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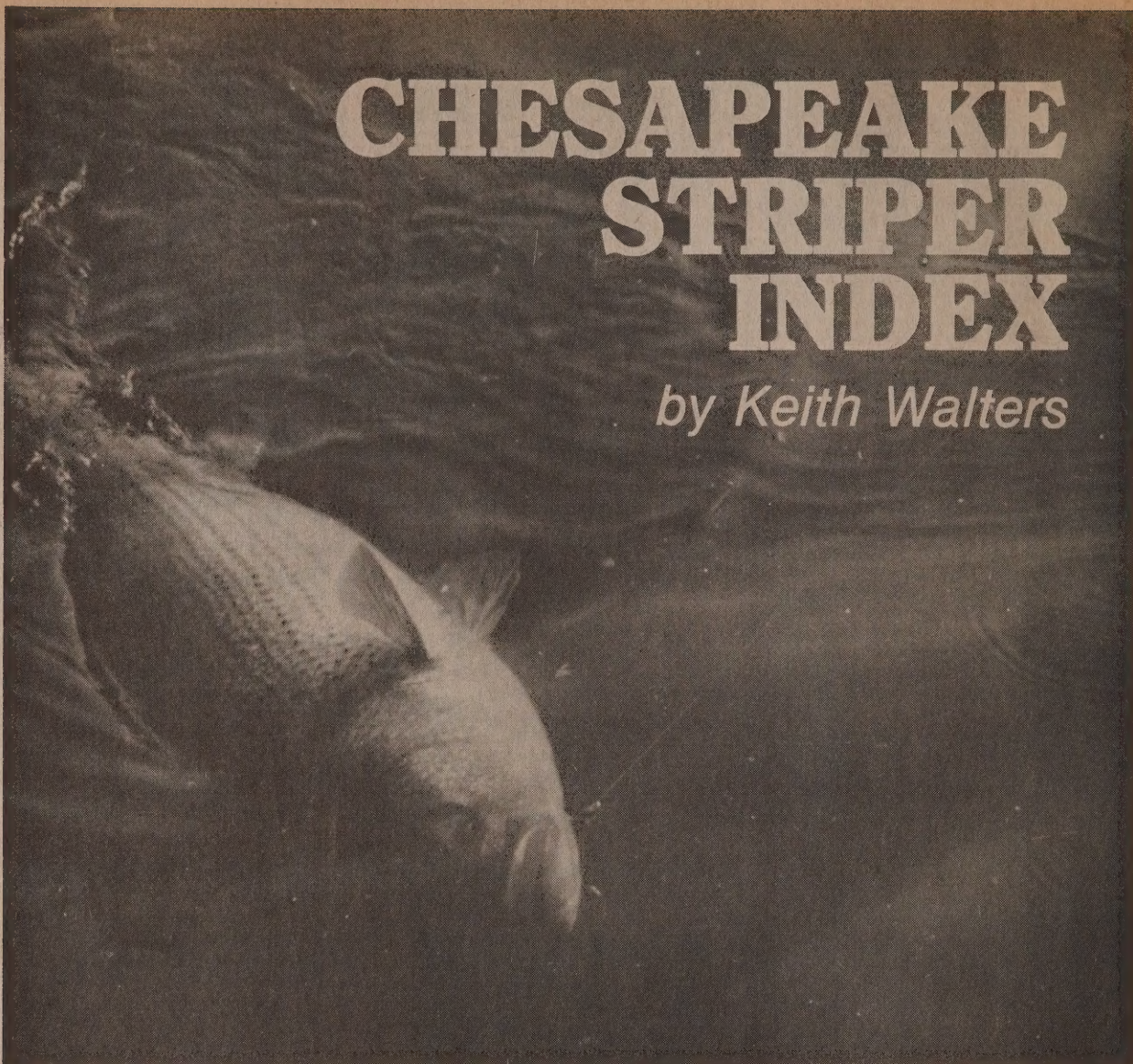
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CHESAPEAKE STRIPER INDEX

by Keith Walters

"I wish I had better news to announce," Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Secretary Dr. Torrey C. Brown apologized as he announced at a press conference that the striped bass young-of-the-year (YOY) index of 2.9 was among the lowest in three decades. Secretary Brown also said that the DNR was most disturbed by the low number of YOY fingerlings found in the upper Chesapeake Bay. The upper Bay has historically produced about 30 percent of the Bay's total striped bass fingerlings. The index for the upper Bay was only 0.3 and the 1985 YOY average of 2.9 for Maryland's portion of the Bay was less than a third of an average annual index (9.3).

The young-of-the-year (YOY) index is determined by averaging the number of striped bass fingerlings caught in each sweep of a 100 yard seine. Twenty-two sites on the Bay are sampled in July, August and September of each year. To get the YOY index, all of the fingerlings caught are divided by the number of sweeps of

the seine. The survey was started in 1954, and data gathered since that time has established that peaks in spawning success as measured in the survey are followed exactly (with a three year lag for fish growth) by similar peaks in the reported commercial catch.

To illustrate the impact that low recruitment figures will have on the future of the striped bass fishery, a "successful" year class index is said to be from 8 to 10, and a "dominant" year class index from 17 to 20. Good sport and commercial catches of stripers in the early 1970s in the Chesapeake Bay were due to the dominant 1970 year class which was over 30.

Joe Boone, the DNR biologist who has worked on the YOY surveys for 28 years, has an answer for commercial fishermen and other citizens who have been critical of the accuracy of the seining surveys. Boone said, "If you are consistent from year to year you have a good data base." Boone's associate, DNR biologist Jim Uphoff,

added that 18 auxiliary sites have been added since the mid-70s, but they haven't collected enough data from these additional sites to fully analyze them. And, Boone added, "The 1984 Citizen's Seining Survey caught less fish than we did."

"The most significant thing," Boone said, "is that for six of the last seven years the average is less than two."

The Maryland striped bass moratorium was designed to protect the 1982 year class (index only 8.4) until the 1982 females can return to the Bay to spawn for the first time in 1987 and 1988. The Sport Fishing Institute (SFI) recently voiced concern that stocks of the 1982 year class might have been overfished before the moratorium went into effect. The concern of the SFI is very real because the previous successful year class, 1978, was fished out in less than two years in the absence of protections, Boone said.

Until 1987 and 1988 fisheries biologists anticipate low levels of recruitment because most of the brood fish

for the last two years were more than 15 years old and have reached their biological life expectancy. To further protect the 1982 year class, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) approved Amendment 3 to the Interstate Striped Bass Management Plan to "maintain a spawning stock, minimize the possibility of recruitment failure and to ensure the rebuilding of the severely depleted Chesapeake spawning stock." The objective is "to reduce fishing mortality on the 1982 year class females and females of all subsequent year classes of Chesapeake Bay stocks to zero until 95 percent of these year classes have had an opportunity to reproduce at least once." The objective is intended to apply to the fishery until "the three year running average of Maryland YOY index attains 8.0." Maryland DNR biologist Boone, due to retire next March, said "It would be ridiculous to lift the moratorium on the basis of two or three good years."

Maryland will push for action at the ASMFC meeting to implement Amendment 3, but while DNR Secretary Brown would like the ASMFC to ban striped bass fishing on the entire coast, he realistically hopes for an increase in the minimum size of 24 inches in ocean waters. Some say Maryland will ask for a minimum size in ocean waters of 28 inches. One scientist member of the ASMFC reportedly has data that supports a coastal minimum size of 32 inches.

Boone said that additional water quality studies will have to be done. "You can analyze water but we don't know yet how it affects fish survivability. You need to subject live fry to water from various rivers, and then analyze the water if fish die."

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWC) ran larvae survivability tests using Nanticoke River water during the 1984 spawning season. Striped bass larvae survived in pure tap water, but as Nanticoke water was added to the tap water larvae began to die. In pure river water, all the larvae died. Researchers found the Nanticoke water had a low pH level and contained quantities of metals such as aluminum. Fisheries scientists like Boone feel that there will have to be more research in this area.

Dr. Brown said that a planned intercept hatchery near the head of the Chesapeake Bay is "paramount" to efforts to increase brood stocks in the Chesapeake Bay. Other existing hatcheries like the one at Elkton will be utilized, too, Dr. Brown said, "Because we need maximum capacity." The intercept hatchery has not been constructed yet. Dr. Brown estimates that the new hatchery "can be built and producing fingerlings within three years with a maximum production of 5 million (per year) soon after that."

The low index for 1985 is a severe disappointment to scientists as well as fishermen concerned about the future of the species. Since it was a dry spring with very few storms sci-



Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) biologists separate and measure striped bass and other fingerlings at Hog Island in the Choptank River during the annual striper young-of-the-year (YOY) survey. Survey team leader, Joe Boone, records data as Don Cosden (kneeling, left) and Jim Uphoff classify species.

tists had predicted water quality would remain stable and striped bass recruitment would be good. There was also some controversy about the theory that acid rain could be the cause of low spawning success. The fact that the upper Bay experienced almost no reproduction and several other rivers like the Choptank and Nanticoke had slightly better reproduction than last year led some to discount the acid rain theory.

"Not so," said Jim Price of Oxford, President of the Chesapeake Bay Acid Rain Foundation (CBARF), "It only proves that acid rain can be a major factor." Price said that the 2.04 inches of rain was recorded by the University of Maryland at Conowingo Dam on May 3, 1985—a "critical time" during the spawning run. "I have every reason to believe that there was considerable spawning before that," Price, "and the low pH could have affected the larvae—and made the waters unsuitable after that." Price said that this rain event, followed by low recruitment in the upper Bay, proves that acid rain is the culprit. Upper Bay rivers are smaller

(where reproduction was low), and larger rivers like the Choptank with their greater volume are less affected by an acid rain event. Therefore, Price explains, the better recruitment in these larger rivers. A recent technical paper Price presented shows a direct correlation between periods of heavy rainfall and low striped bass recruitment.

Price will take a major step that he feels is necessary in the light of the low 1985 YOY index—he is filing for Threatened Species Status for the striped bass with the National Marine Fisheries Service. His petition will succeed where others have failed, he believes, because of new data he will include. (Price's petition for Maryland Threatened Species designation was a major factor in Maryland's striped bass moratorium).

If Price's Federal Threatened Species Status is approved, it would close the Atlantic Coast fishery for striped bass and protect the small number of brood fish remaining. That, coupled with the Chesapeake Bay cleanup, could be major steps in the restoration of the species.

ATLANTIC SHIPWRECKS: THE WESTERN WORLD

by Steve Nagiewicz

**An expert diver's view of what lies beneath the surface.
Sunken wrecks provide shelter for a variety of fish.**

Shipwrecks play an important role in the underwater environment. These twisted hulks, of what were once ships now become the few places where marine life flourishes. This, because the sandy ocean sea floor along the shallow reaches of the Continental Shelf are barren of places where marine life can feed. Stretching eastward for over 45 miles, the ocean sea bed varies very little in depths that often do not exceed 130 feet, even 50 miles offshore. It is not until you reach the offshore canyons that the abyssal ocean depths start.

Over the many hundred years these shipwrecks have littered the inshore waters to provide havens and collecting grounds for the many abundant species of marine life that inhabit our coastal waterways. During those 300

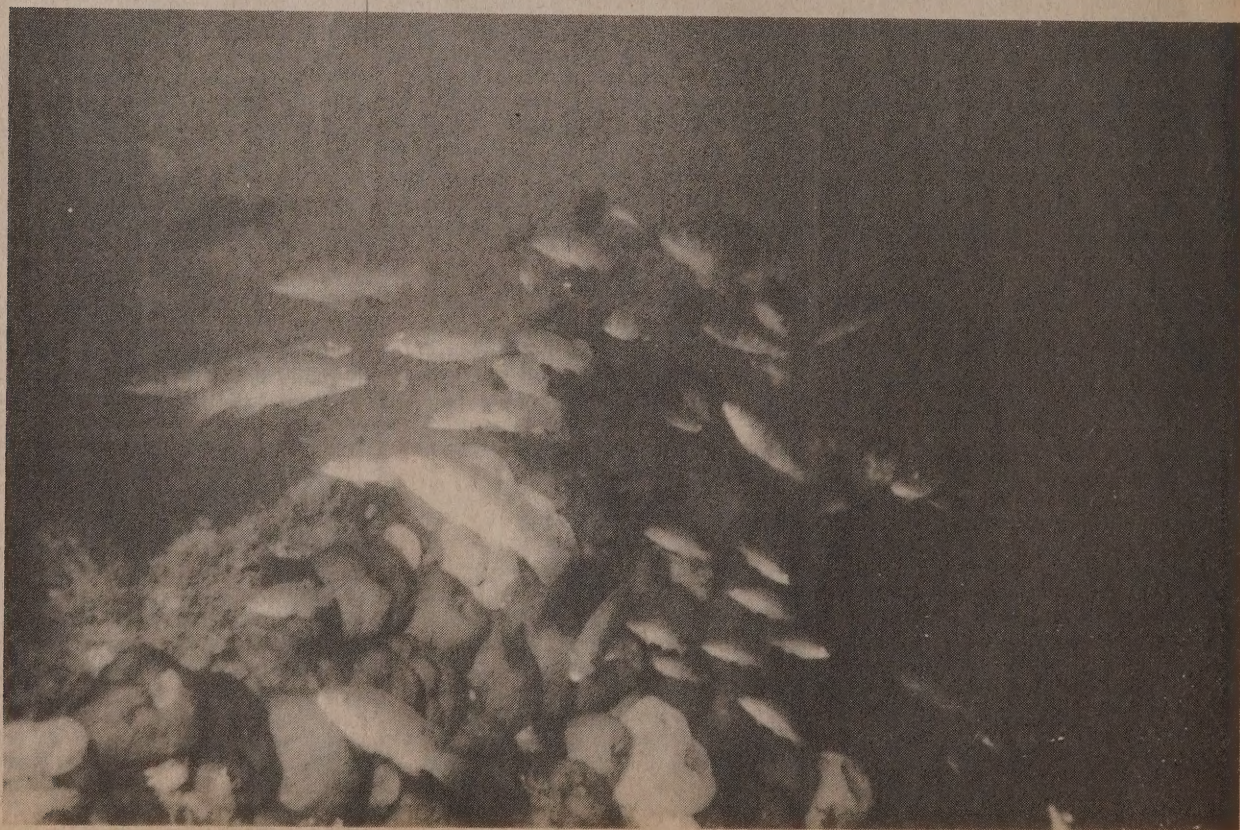
years, ships traveling to and from the Ports of New Jersey and New York have made them the busiest in the nation. Of the many thousands of vessels that reached ports, many more were never heard from again. As we read in previous issues, several fell prey to enemy guns and war. Even more were lost due to fire, collisions, negligence and disastrous storms.

One such disaster was the wrecking of the packet ship, the Western World. Sunk October 22, 1853 off of what was then called Squan Beach, the wreck now rests in 30 feet of water about 600 feet off of Spring Lake. A very large ship, the Western World grossed over 1550 tons. She was built in 1849 at the yards at Portsmouth, New Hampshire for the D.A. Kings-

land Company. Her hull was insured for \$80,000—a considerable sum in 1853! She had many times successfully made the Liverpool, England to New York run, transporting passengers and mail as was generally the task of packet ships.

The Western World had run ashore approximately half past four in the morning; how the accident happened no one could accurately explain. It surprised the local inhabitants of Squan Beach, when awakened in the morning, to find a very large sailing vessel among the breakers and over 600 passengers on board.

As was described in local papers at the time, a reporter wrote: "The villagers with the greatest celerity (speed) launched three large life boats, the first coming alongside the



Bottom life abounds on the Western World. This big school of bergalls and blackfish is typical of what fishermen can hope to catch when fishing here.

stricken vessel to ask the captain how matters stood, who told them he supposed that the ship could be gotten off at flood tide." Once the crew was off, it was found that the ship leaked badly, and the captain thinking it was prudent to keep the vessel easy, sent a kedge anchor ashore and fastened a 1½ inch hawser to the mainmast of the vessel."

All during this time some of the passengers, immigrants from Europe, were being rescued from aboard ship by government lifeboats. Over 250 of the passengers were taken off by 2:30 PM. A steam tug was unable to help due to high surf conditions that late in the afternoon and by six o'clock it closed the labors of the day. The remaining passengers spent a very uncomfortable night aboard a ship that was half drowned with water and leaking so badly, the crew could not salvage the rest of her cargo.

The next morning, the ship's captain and the insurance agent went aboard to assess damage. The vessel lay only 200 yards from the beach, with her head to the south and broadside to the beach. Her back was broken amidships as well as aft of her mizzen mast, and her rudder was gone. All during this time the seas and surf were kicking up very badly and by 10AM the Western World had over 30 feet of water in her holds.

Throughout the morning hours the remaining passengers were being rescued from the stricken ship. Because the seas were too high for safe operation of lifeboats, metallic life cars were used. These small oval life-saving devices reminded the reporter of small cockleshells. Once these were launched, three passengers ventured into one—two women and one man. Partially away from the ship, the life car turned over and had to be pulled from the surf and the unfortunate adventurers were on dry land. One woman immigrant who made this trip remarked: "Oh God bless you all, I thought for sure we were going to the bottom." The gentleman who was aboard the life car, upon collecting his walking stick, ran through the crowd, about 30 yards from the craft and after reviving himself with applejack began hugging the men and women who had saved him!

More and more of the stranded passengers aboard the Western World were soon rescued in this same fashion. One red-haired Irishman upon seeing his deliverance, jumped up and down and waved his hat over his head in "Ragged Pat" fashion of the time, to show his comrades that he was well.

The beach at this time was strewn with the helpless immigrants, villagers and sightseers, as well as pieces of the ship and her cargo. One of the immigrants was asked what the ride was like in the life car; he replied "that it was like being rolled in a barrel down the side of the hill." Passengers were greeted and fed, sometimes at a profit by the villagers, and lectured about the conduct and duties

they were expected to have in this, their adopted land. An old school-master told of the great danger of "spiritous liquors" and the follies of previous immigrants like the Irish, who were very much addicted to intoxicating drink, he lectured. The old man also spoke of learning new ways rather than those of the old country, but his sermons fell on largely deaf ears, as the passengers were most concerned with feeding their starving appetites.

By the late evening, salvagers thought they could re-float the ship with the coming of better weather, though her cargo of fine cloth and silks, hardware and other items were no doubt worth only a third of their invoiced value. The total insured value of her cargo is \$100,000. Many lighters and schooners were on their way from New York to help off-load.

Several days later, with the weather worsening, the ship sank. Cables and anchors were salvaged as was most of the passengers luggage and baggage. Every one of her 600 passengers were saved, mostly through the quick action of the local villagers and the timely arrival of steamers and tugs who helped to save these immigrants with their own lifeboats. Her cargo is expected to be a total loss, and final salvage efforts would wait until the ship totally breaks up with the next storm.

Today, the wreck of the Western World no longer strands hopeful passengers, nor does it carry valuable cargo between ports. She is now a haven for local fish and assorted marine life, an undistinguished lump of metal and wood mostly buried in the sand. Big blackfish and sea bass dart over her mast and decking, carried on the swift movement of the surf.

Divers can usually glimpse parts of her wreckage and see the vast amount of fish now keeping watch over the ship's wreckage. On closer examination of huge blocks of petrified wood decking and hull, divers can see pieces of her cargo melded into the wood, cowboy spurs, glasses, dinnerware and plates, brass hinges and locks and assorted other bits and pieces of junk.

Watchful bergalls looking through the stirred-up wreckage after the diver, for bits of food while the bigger sea bass and tautog keep a respectful distance just outside the range of the diver's spear, desperately trying to avoid becoming tonight's dinner selection.

Beach wrecks like the Western World are usually good spots for catching tautog (blackfish) and sea bass. Often large striped bass are nearby as well. Bergalls are all over, ready to snip and bite at bait, providing more nuisance than sport. Flatfish, like fluke and flounder can be seen off in the sand, depending on the surge at the bottom. Crabs and sea grass make up most of the other types of marine life on and around the wreck on this "Look from the Hook."



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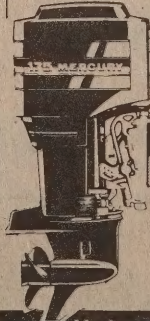
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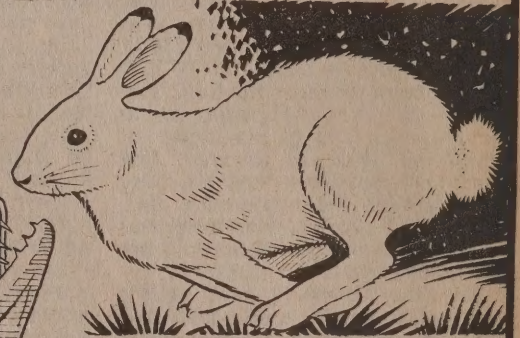
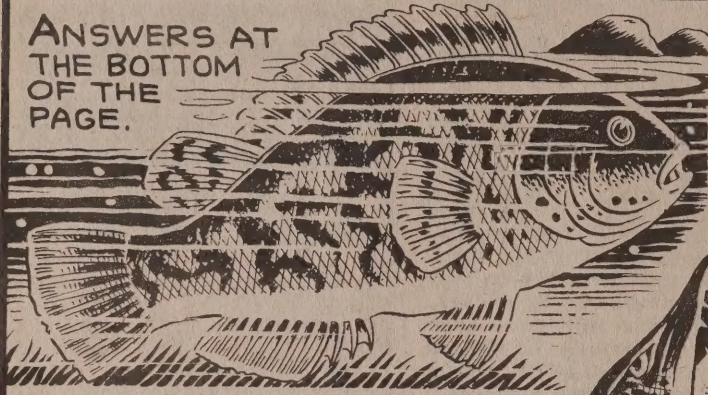
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THE FISHERMAN QUIZ

① BLACKFISH WILL SOMETIMES MOVE IN WITH THE INCOMING TIDE TO FEED ON MUSSELS THAT ARE NORMALLY ABOVE THE LOW-TIDE LEVEL. TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐

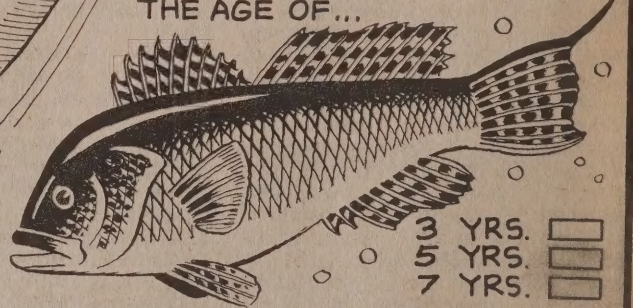
② WHEN THE SNOWSHOE RABBIT TURNS WHITE IN WINTER IT IS BECAUSE ITS FUR CHANGES COLOR ☐ IT GROWS A NEW FUR COAT ☐

ANSWERS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE.



③ MUSKELLUNGE FISHING IS BETTER THAN USUAL JUST BEFORE AND DURING A STORM. TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐

④ BLACK SEA BASS WHEN YOUNG, ARE ALL EGG PRODUCING FEMALES, BUT MANY SWITCH THEIR SEX BECOMING FUNCTIONAL MALES WHEN THEY REACH THE AGE OF...

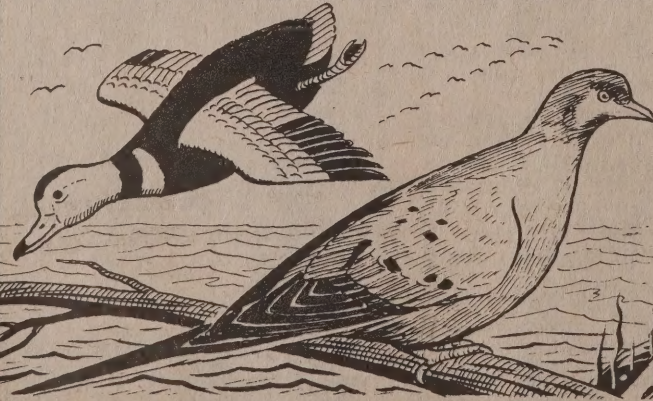


3 YRS. ☐
5 YRS. ☐
7 YRS. ☐

⑤ WHERE ARE THESE GAMEBIRDS FOUND IN NORTH AMERICA?
LABRADOR DUCK
PASSENGER PIGEON

⑥ THE FIRST ARTIFICIAL FISHING REEF CONSTRUCTED IN U.S. WATERS WAS BUILT OFF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY.

TRUE ☐
FALSE ☐



BY FRED GUARDINEER

1-THE GROW A NEW COAT. 3-TRUE. 4-5 YRS. 5-NOWHERE. THEY ARE BOTH EXTINCT. 6-TRUE. THE CAPE MAY REEF, 9 MILES SE BY S OFF CAPE MAY INLET, N.J. WAS BUILT BEFORE WWII BY THE CAPE MAY-WILDWOOD PARTY BOAT ASS'N. AND STILL PRODUCES SEA BASS, BLACKS AND LING WRITES CAPT. ED REILLY OF FIESTA, CAPE MAY, N.JERSEY.

ROCKPILE FLATTIES

by Tom Schlichter

Bordering Fire Island Inlet's north side, the Oak Beach shore provides access to some quality floundering.

The wind was blowing hard and stiff from the northeast as I pulled the car up to the second rock pile along the Fire Island Inlet shoreline at Oak Beach late one October day. Relaxing with my then fiancée, now wife, Tina, I had managed to talk her into a drive to the water to see if the flatties were biting. A quick glance to the right showed that indeed, most of the Captree Fleet was flounder pounding and quite a few boats were anchored in that cove known as the "pocket" between the Sore Thumb and Oak Beach.

Alongside of us, huddled against the heater of their car, two anglers were obviously enjoying a quick reprieve from the chilled salty air while their fishing rods extended, pretty much unattended, from holders wedged between the damp jetty rocks. Pointing toward the huge breakers which rolled across the sand delta at the inlets mouth with unending consistency, both rods swayed slightly in the sea breeze, lines angled at about 40 degrees to the inlet surface.

I parked the car and we began to chat, all the while keeping an eye on a lone 18 footer which insisted on trolling for small blues off the nearest can and then, rolling down my window, asked the questions all

fishermen's wife know are inevitable:

"Catching any?"

"Got a few flatties" came the response.

"Any size?"

"Not bad," the angler smiled.

With that he exited the car to check his baits. The first rod, he decided, needed a fresh piece of worm on both hooks of its tandem rig. On the second setup, he gave a slight lift and then set the hook with a distinct jerking motion. Easily overmatched by the 20 lb. gear and three oz. sinker, the flattie were unceremoniously cranked toward shore where the fat two pounder was unhooked and deposited in a bright orange bucket. Here he flapped vigorously for several minutes before settling down to relax among the company of six or seven brethren.

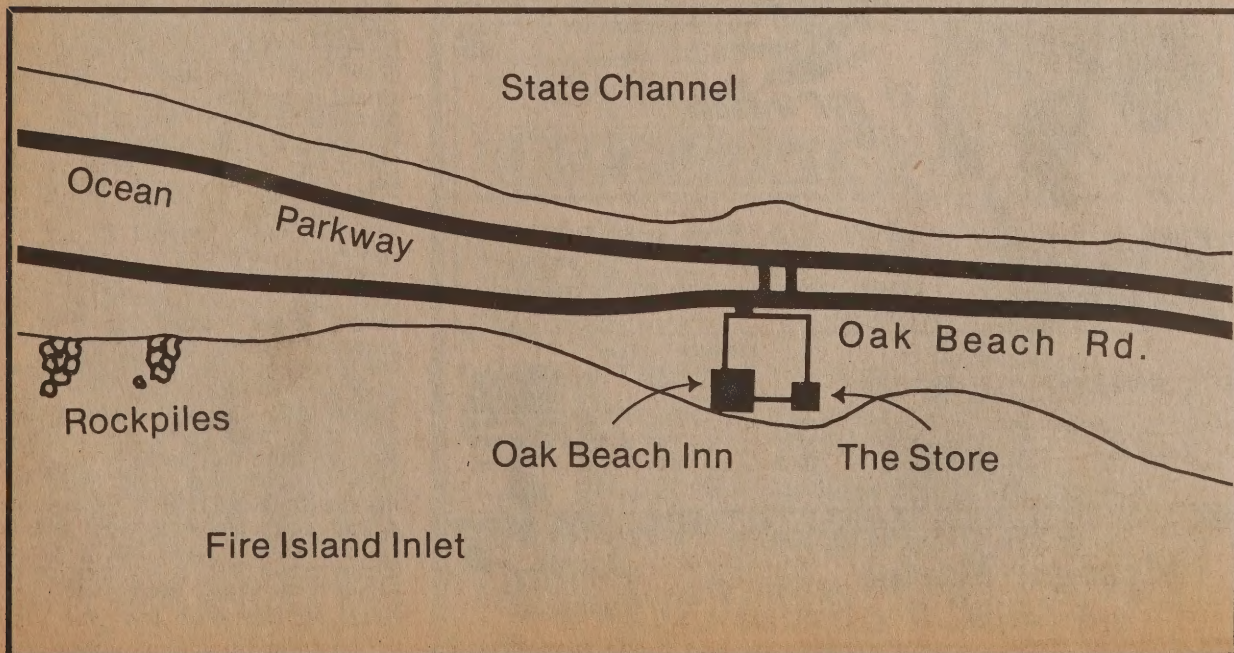
Suddenly feeling very "cooped up" inside the car, I strolled outside to watch as the angler sent his baits back to the successful spot. "Didn't even know that one was on there!" he grinned. I smiled back and leaned against the car hood to plan my strategy and breathe the fresh air for a minute or two. Returning to the car, I turned to Tina but before I could open my mouth she answered the query. "No, I don't want to go home and get the rods," she droned.

(Seems she's always one step ahead of me.) And I knew that was that.

It wasn't until the following week that I got the opportunity to wet line my at the rock pile. The wait, however, proved to be well worthwhile as I scored with a dozen flatties in about an hour and a half's time. Not bad as shore-bound flatfishing goes. Since that time, I have dabbled at this spot on occasion, but have never become a true "regular" since I live a good distance away. Still it is a spot I'd like to share with you for the fishing is indeed consistent, the access easy, and the rock pile comfortably shared by several companions or individual anglers. It produces flounder and blackfish in the spring and fall, becoming very productive toward the later part of each run.

Our friend, the flounder, is known as a popular bottom fish from southern New Jersey as far north as Nova Scotia. While not truly a migratory species, they do move inshore and off each year as water temperature dictates. They are believed to spawn during late winter and spring, at which time each female releases roughly 500,000 eggs which cling together like clusters of grapes and sink to the bottom. Although the number of eggs may seem to be more

(Continued on next page.)



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than enough, the flounder serves as a vital link in our local food chain and comparatively few ever attain maturity. Most are consumed by small fish, crabs and other egg eaters while young of the year fish serve as fodder for bass, weaks, snappers, blues and even fluke. So while the flattie may spend a good deal of time laying around on the bay bottom, life for this flatfish is certainly no bed of roses.

As with flounder fishing anywhere else in the world, the most important factor to be aware of when fishing the Oak Beach area is that they are strictly bottom feeders. No new news, this to the established sinker bouncer; but I am constantly amazed at the number of fishermen I encounter who head out for flounder with high-low rigs or rigging similar to what might be used for bay weakfishing for summer schoolies. I guess these fishermen have just never really had a chance to sit down and watch a real flounder pounder at work. Remember, keep those lines on the bottom if you want to catch fish. We'll talk more about rigging in a minute or two, but right now I think it would be a better idea to look at the tackle requirements necessary to help make your outing a productive one.

The tides in this area are pretty strong on most days and when considered in relation to the rock strewn bottom near the shore, I'm sure you'll agree that fairly stiff gear is a basic necessity. (Actually, very little fishing is done close to the rocks, unless you opt for tog, but these obstructions must be dealt with as you reel your rigs back toward the jetty.) To this end, six to eight foot spinning rods matched with reels capable of utilizing 20 to 30 lb. test are the means of choice. To be sure, you can get away with a little lighter gear, but if you go light, expect to lose three or four rigs on each trip.

For my money, a 2 to 3 inch segment of bloodworm is the best bait at Oak Beach. If you have read any of my flounder articles over the years, you know that I use clams or mussels almost everywhere I go, but at this particular location (despite the fact that there is an abundance of mussels lining the jetty rocks), bloodworms seem to get the nod from the flatties at about a 2:1 ratio. Don't ask me why. I haven't figured it out as yet—but I'm working on it.

On the terminal side of your setup, most anglers prefer long-shank Chestertown hooks in sizes 9 to 6; #8 is probably the best bet. Personally, I like to employ either a #8 Eagle Claw beak style bait-holder hook or a small English Wide-Gap. While these styles may make hook removable slightly more difficult, they seem to result in more frequent and solid hook-ups than do the Chestertowns. Regardless of your hook preference, hooks should be tied tandem style, two or three inches above a 2 to 4 ounce bank sinker. (The sinker weight will vary based on tide stage and your line class.) Whatever you do, stay away



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from those worthless flounder spreader rigs, as all they will do is hang up on the rocks.

Okay now, we've got the lines rigged, baited and ready to go. What next? How about a cast? Almost any place along the three main rock piles will prove productive although I especially like the west side of the middle jetty. As I mentioned before, most of the better flounder fishing occurs away from the rocks, so send out a hefty cast and allow the line to settle to the bottom. Keep a tight line at all times and be ready for that light tap, tap, tap, that signals a flounder's hunger. Upon feeling a pick-up, lift your line slightly, until you can feel the weight of the fish and then set the hook with a short, quick snap. Keep your rod held high as you slide the fish over the rocks so that it won't get snagged.

If it is a little nippy outside, as it is likely to be at this time of the year, you can wedge a sand spike in the rocks and leave your rig in the water while you sit in the car and warm up. Since the flatties seem to hit a dead-sticked bait with almost as much abandon as one which is hand-held at this location, you won't be missing too much. Just keep an eye on those rod tips and watch for light taps.

Most of the flatties that are encountered at Oak Beach range between 3/4 to 1 1/2 lbs. Occasionally, a few two pounders mix in but they are more the exception than the rule. The biggest I've seen taken here went a little over 2 1/2 lbs. Additionally, each trip usually sees a few throw-backs.

Because the rock piles at Oak Beach jut out into the inlet and are fairly isolated, your exposure to wind, cold and dampness while working this area will be great. Therefore, it is highly suggested that you dress appropriately with several layers of clothing, a wool hat, and maybe even boots. Winds blowing out of the northeast are especially brutal. Winds from the northwest provide the most favorable conditions.

The Oak Beach area is found by taking the Ocean Parkway to The Oak Beach Inn at Oak Beach. Here it is necessary to drive through the parking lot to the west end where a small road leads to the jetties and ultimately, the "Sore Thumb." Please obey all local ordinances when driving through and fishing in these areas so that access will remain open for all to enjoy.

For the fall season, the action gets under way around the second week of October and may last past Thanksgiving if the temperatures are favorable. Although fish hit regularly on both the incoming and outgoing tides here, I've scored a little better on the rising water and you probably will too. So when the flounder action gets into full swing this fall, check those tide tables, break out the bloodworms put on a wool knit hat and head for the rocks. I'm sure you find the flavor of this fishing to be quite enjoyable.

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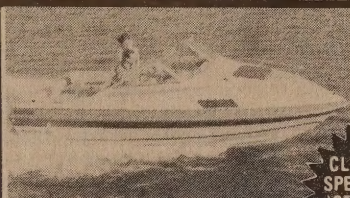
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MOON MAGIC

by Capt. John DeMaio

Ask a bartender or policeman, "What is the worst night of the year for you to work?" It will not be New Year's Eve. The answer is, "Any full moon night." The forces of the moon are powerful enough to create strange behavior patterns amongst many people. It can be found in fact and fiction. From the Wolfman to the local drunk. It's been going on for a long, long time.

For the fisherman, the moon and its phases are an intricate part of daily life; high tides, low tides, new moon tides and so forth. But that is only basic factual information. It does not suggest the excitement the moon can create in a man's spirit. Especially if the man is a dedicated striped bass fisherman.

Bass fishermen live for the full moons. Even during the dead of winter these men spend hours staring out of the window watching the moon's brilliance casting weird looking shadows across the snow-covered landscape. Time passes slowly. Smoke another cigarette; make another drink and wait out the night... the month...the winter. Wait until the first full moon of spring when the bass have migrated back to your favorite area and life again begins.

Why do bass fishermen need a full moon to fish at night? Do bass feed more actively during the full moon phase? I don't believe so. Bass are nocturnal feeders regardless of the full moon. Most fishermen, even those with experience, aren't aware of the principal role played by the moon's light. Except for some inland areas, a condition known as phosphorescence exists throughout the world's oceans. These are particles of illuminating matter that glow in the

water when tumbled. It can easily be seen in a boat's wake. This strange phenomenon only happens in the dark. A light shone onto the water will make it disappear. So will the light of the moon.

We fishermen refer to the phosphorescence as "fire." When there is too much fire in the water you will rarely connect. There are times when even the fire will not stop foraging bass from finding the hook. "Fire" can make a retrieved plug appear to be four times its size and even the line illuminates like a neon sign. The problem then is that the bass is spooked from the lure.

One more important item regarding fire. Even on an overcast rainy night, enough of the moon's light will penetrate the cloud cover and diminish the fire's glow. In fact, many anglers prefer the overcast nights. They refer to these choice nights as a "dark moon."

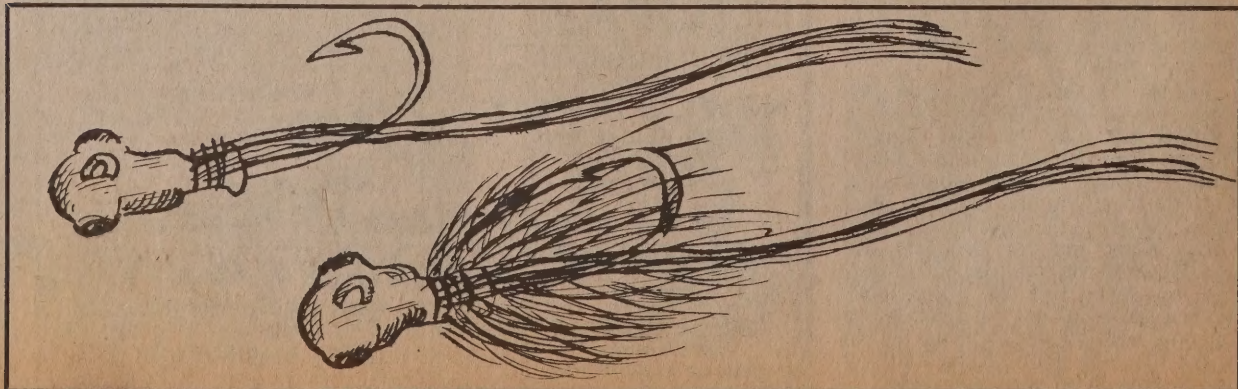
I began nighttime bass fishing as a kid some years back in Jamaica Bay. There was no fire problem in the Bay. Any night was a potential good night to fish. At the headwaters of the bay where Queens County meets Nassau County, there wasn't a bit of fire to be found. As you ran further west and towards the open ocean of the New York Bight area, the fire would begin. I began catching bass, all school size fish, on sandworms. As I progressed, the worms gave way to bucktails and soon I was into casting. Those early years of casting were frustrating at times, because of the tackle used. In my little circle of bass hawks existed an aversion to spinning tackle. We used conventional tackle. Mostly a Penn Squidder reel loaded with 30 lb. test mono. We believed we needed

the heavy mono because most of our fishing was done around bridges, piers, railroad tracks and other obstructions. Even a school bass could rub the 30 lb. mono against a barnacle and pop the line. Casting lures weighing 1 oz. with a Penn Squidder can be troublesome. Add a windy night and you could break down in tears. It wasn't until a friend, Dr. Ben Sherman, introduced us to the Ambassadeur level wind bait casting reel that things began to change. Now we were using 15 lb. test mono and casting lures as light as 3/8 ounces. More important, with the well machined bait casting reel, we were in control.

That was 20 years ago and things haven't changed much today. After having caught striped bass by most methods and on most lures, including just about every live bait that swims, crawls or snaps, my preference is casting. For me, the true sport of fishing is in the cast and retrieve application. Here all the sophistication of today's modern tackle comes into play. The sport is particularly more appealing when using a bait casting reel. To say that I have been responsible for making several hundred anglers switch from spinning reels to the little level winds is no exaggeration. Learning to use the small reel effectively takes some time and practice, but once you have mastered it there's no going back. Spinning may be mandatory for the surf fisherman, but for the boat angler, you can do without it.

Learning to fish Montauk's shores in those great bass years of the late 60s and early 70s was exciting. Those same casting tricks and lures that were used back in the Bay worked equally as well at Montauk. In fact, it was even easier. Except for rough oceans which make getting close to the beach tricky, bass after bass jumped on the hooks night and day. The knowledge I gained in those years when the fish gave themselves away is very useful now when they swim in dark secrecy. Today you must be able to pinpoint the rock you want to cast to. In those great years, the fish were so thick they spilled out over the hot-spot.

As the bass stocks dwindled, the areas remaining where bass could be caught casting were narrowed down.



The new wave of bass fishermen, armed with Loran C receivers and various live baits, seek their prey in the deep water rips where world record contenders swim in search of a big meal.

After a time, trying to catch bass casting the shallows and beaches became almost impossible during the day. Even during the fall bass runs. Everything happens on the moon for a casting buff like myself. The best action being the October or November moon periods. So it turns out that your most desired sport is placed into a mere handful of nights. Also the adversity in casting is endless. Big swells that drive you away from the beach, fog, suspended weeds that are a common problem at the ocean's edge and breezy nights. Another troublesome factor is competitive boat traffic. Most of these obstacles can be overcome and with a little tenacity you will get your good nights.

Although I charter full time, I don't book nighttime trips. I would like to book casting trips at night, but I found out years back that an angler must be very skillful to handle himself and his tackle at night. At night you fish by memory and feel. You are unable to see the lure hit the water, even with the brightest of moons. Considering you do have the skills and could even fish blindfolded is only the beginning. Working the lure with the needed finesse comes with experience. Having a mentor at your back is not good enough. You could make three casts to the same area without results and have an experienced angler make the fourth cast behind you and take a fish. Some unexplainable ability, talent, or whatever you may call it does come from the knowledge of experience.

Perhaps my selection of lures makes it difficult. I never use plugs. My main weapon is the bucktail. This lure is retrieved below the surface, normally slowly and deep. Unlike the visible plug, the whereabouts of the bucktail lure can be a mystery. Without lure control you have no control. Also every location fished has a personality that must be understood. Fishing a spot correctly after you have worked it over for 15 years come instinctively. More often than not, the first cast can produce a fish. An undeniable factor, not yet mentioned, comes into focus now: confidence. The confidence that you can do it is a key to success.

My ideas of casting rods have changed over the years. At Montauk longer casts were often required, so a longer rod was soon put to use. My latest delight is an 8 foot Lamiglas blank #8/5MB936M. It has six aluminum oxide guides, plus tip and reel seat. The seat is the Fuji nylon type. The butt is 17 inches long to allow for a solid two-hand cast and the foregrip is 4 inches long. Both butt and grip are made of individual cork rings. When completed, the entire rod weighs 10 ounces. It can handle lures from the 1/2 to 3 ounce class. The taper is medium and has enough

backbone to drive a 6/0 hook into the bony mouth of a big bass.

If you're considering buying a bait-casting outfit, make sure you buy a rod with a two handed butt. The standard bait casting rod has a butt of about 12 inches and is totally useless for making a decent cast. The distance between the reel seat and the rod end cap should be at least 15 inches. The bigger the man, the longer the rod and you can add up to 3 more inches. The longer butt is a must for making a proper cast.

Reels are something else again. The market is loaded with baitcasters. My experience with a variety of bait casting reels is limited. I own a dozen Ambassador reels and that's all I use. These reels have performed well for me, so I stick with them. Abu has changed the models and numbers over the years, but the basic 6000 series is what I use.

Bucktail lures remain constant. Here and there you may find a variation on a theme. Such as my latest gimmick: a hank of nylon hair approximately 1/8 inches thick and 8 inches long is applied to the tying shank first and then the bucktail hairs surround the shank in the usual manner. This adds more action to the lure. Also, you may not need the added piece of pork rind which is usually a must. So far I have had bass up to 50 lbs. take that lure. If your bucktails are already tied, you may try the barrel swivel trick. Make sure you use a barrel swivel big enough to slip over the barb of the hook. Take one end of the swivel and place the nylon hank of hair through the eye and fold over, then tie with nylon wrapping thread. You can do this in several colors if desired and keep them handy for whenever you may choose to try them out. You can try varying lengths of nylon to achieve best results.

Fishing everyday as a full time charter boat skipper has not dulled my appreciation for the sport of casting. The days spent fishing the charters are work. Those days spent casting are pleasure. Casting the moons is a double delight. If I were a man of independent means I would forsake most other forms of fishing and simply cast. I still, after years of full moons, get turned on to an anticipated nighttime casting trip. A suspense of the unknown is always present at night. What swims below the surface of that inky black water is a sweet mystery.

Age has a way of slowing you down. Nights without sleep that are felt for days after—backaches, shoulder aches and other ailments that discourage. Cold fall nights that numb the fingertips and make you wonder if it's all worth it. And yet age, unlike youth has its own merits. Such as patience: there is always tomorrow night, next month, or even next year.

Once you are possessed by the moon's magic, it is for life. Not simply a passing fancy. If you are a victim of the spell, relish it. After all, how many men can claim such a passion?

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IN PURSUIT OF WRECK BLACKFISH

by Stan Zdep

Knowing where to fish is almost as important as knowing how and when. The author divulges some of his secrets for taking big tautog.

A lot has been written about the wily blackfish or tautog and most of it has to do with the difficulty in catching this species. Blackfish tend to reside in the most inhospitable of all habitats as far as the angler is concerned. Found only on wrecks and other rough bottom areas the blackfish is a master of using its chosen environment to maximum advantage. Most often, it is difficult to tell when the fish has actually mouthed the bait, especially when fishing deep water wrecks. Upon taking the bait, tog immediately head for the safety of bottom structure where fishing line or sinker are almost certain to be entangled.

Until comparatively recently, virtually all blackfishing had to be done on party or charter boats because only these boats had the expensive Loran units necessary to locate underwater wrecks. In recent years, however, advances in the micro chip industry have brought the price of Loran C Units within reach of the small boat owner, so that now, he, too, may fish wrecks that harbor blackfish.

Previously, while party boat fishing

for blackfish, all a fisherman could do was concentrate on various techniques for increasing the number of hook-ups. Mind you, this was no small task. However, the techniques for actually working the structure remained a mystery. It was well recognized that some anglers would catch no fish, others caught small fish and occasionally, some would catch monster blackfish. Usually, these varying rates of success were attributed to the skill or lack of skill of the angler. Very seldom were such outcomes attributed to where an angler fished in relation to the wreck. Perhaps this topic needs greater attention.

Recently, I had the opportunity to fish a wreck I had not fished before. It lies a mile or so off Long Beach Island in a scant seven fathoms of water. Because of the comparative shallowness of water, I had no great expectations regarding the fish that were likely to be found in the wreck. I was to be proven wrong.

On my first expedition on this wreck, I was surprised to find the old

hulk rising 12 to 15 feet off the bottom. Fish markings appeared all over the chart, not only over the wreck itself, but over an area extending 50 yards or so in all directions. Within a short time, I was anchored and ready to go. Since I was fishing alone on this trip, the difficulty in anchoring over the wreck was more than compensated for by the freedom of movement available in the cockpit. In anticipation of losing lots of terminal gear, I had prepared three rods for immediate use. I was hopeful of hooking blackfish, but was willing to settle for sea bass. With any luck, the latter would be of decent size.

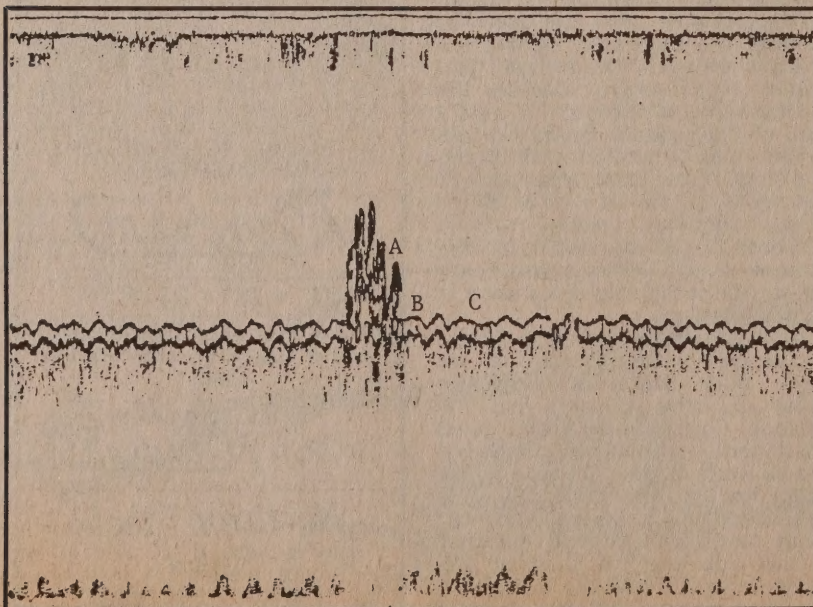
Two of the rods were medium action boat models, rigged with 25 lb. test line and 1/0 virginia style hooks. The third rod was rigged the same way but was a spinning rod. Whole green crabs 1½ to 2 inches long, with legs and claws removed, were used.

While fishing one rod (with a single hook) at a time, a strike would invariably occur shortly after the sinker hit bottom. Because in blackfishing, the drag must be set to provide sufficient resistance to raise and keep the fish off the bottom, the first fish was lost—not to entanglement, but rather, to the line breaking. This did not happen once, but to each of the three rods rigged in advance, and then to a fourth rod rigged with 30 lb. dacron line. Something was clearly wrong.

All lines had been replaced at the beginning of the season, so the fault was not with the line—but perhaps the angler had something to do with it. The curiosity became overwhelming, as might be imagined. Only after hooking and landing the first blackfish that weighed in slightly over 6 pounds did I begin to suspect that these fish might have larger cousins lurking below.

While the first trip to this wreck might have been considered successful with 15 tog and a few sea bass thrown in, the mystery of what lurked below remained until a second trip the following weekend.

For the next trip, the water was clear and the temperature stood at 64 degrees. This time I had brought along the codfishing rods with 40 lb.



Shallow water wreck is tautog hotspot. But, knowing where to fish is the key to taking above-average size tog. For some insight, read on.

test line and 3/0 hooks. The leaders were also 40 lb. test to which a single hook was attached by way of a 12 inch dropper line. A 5 oz. bank sinker was attached to the end of the main line using a 6 lb. test monofilament. In this way, if the sinker became tangled in the wreck, it could be broken off, hopefully, preserving the fish.

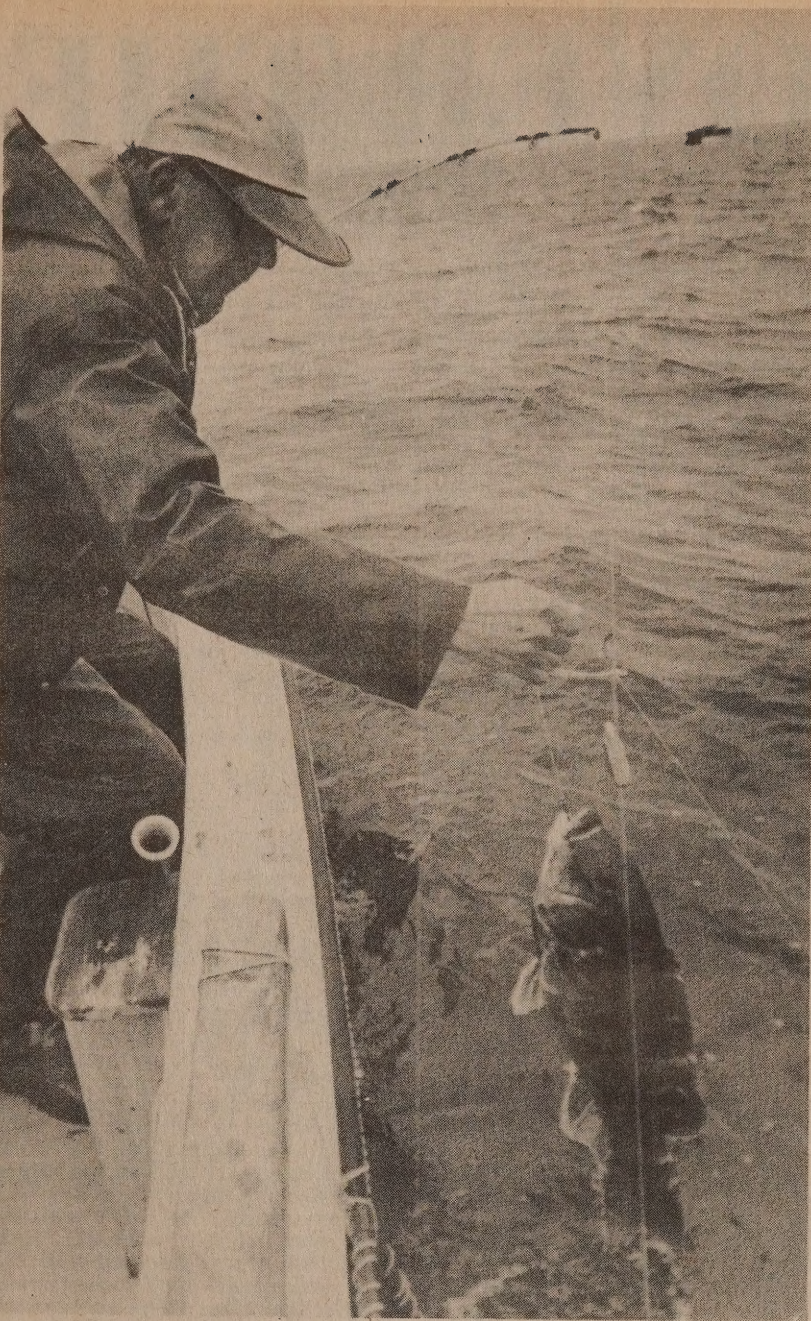
I was surprised to find the water considerably more shallow than it was on the earlier trip. Needless to say, this time I was fishing right on top of the wreck, as the chart recorder soon confirmed. While I was prepared for anything, the only fish hitting the cooler were several small sea bass and tog. None exceeded two pounds. In addition, my line was constantly getting caught in the wreck. Clearly, things were not the same as during the previous trip.

By comparing the chart recordings from the two trips, as well as noting the present position of my marker buoys, the difference in my anchored position became clear. On the earlier trip, I had been fishing within a few feet of the wreck, but adjacent to it (see position B). It was also slightly upcurrent, so that the current set must have dropped the whole green crab literally at the doorstep of inhabitants under the wreck. Based upon this quick analysis, it seemed like the only smart thing to do was to re-anchor so that similar conditions would prevail.

Within minutes, the boat had been repositioned, and a whole crab was dangling 12 inches off the bottom, the line completely taut, with the sinker resting just on the bottom. The characteristic strike soon came, followed by my mighty tug that raised this mystery underwater inhabitant at least six feet above its former home. The fish soon realized what was going on, however, and headed back for the bottom. It made it halfway back or so, and then came a standoff that seemed to last an eternity. With the rod arched, seemingly to the breaking point, it was not entirely clear to me whether or not I had hooked the wreck. But suddenly the distinct movement of a very large fish was felt. Slowly—ever so slowly—it began to yield, and I was able to gain precious cranks on the reel. Once the fish had been lugged 20 feet off the bottom, it made a final run for freedom, but I managed to turn it before it reached the safety of the wreck. After what seemed like I was raising the wreck itself, I finally got my first glimpse of a monster blackfish. Embarrassingly, this fish broke a fluke landing net, and in desperation, I had to gaff it.

With a 12 lb. tog safely in (and extending out) of the cooler, I began to feel that I may have started to learn the secret of catching monster blackfish.

The importance of very stout tackle could not be minimized. A whole green crab on a 3/0 hook proved to be sufficient enticement for the tog. But most important, the bait had to be



Here is ample evidence that wrecks house big "tog."

presented right at the doorstep of where monster blackfish were most likely to be located—under the wreck or in crevices near the ocean bottom.

During this trip, half a dozen blackfish in the 8 to 12 lb. range, together with numerous smaller ones, were caught. After every hook-up it was necessary to check at least 10 feet of terminal line for nicks or abrasions. Even the slightest abrasion meant the damaged portion had to be removed. Moreover, a new, sharpened hook had to be used after only a few strikes.

The next time you are anchoring over a wreck, keep this experience in mind. Also, if you are wreck fishing on a party boat, and you find some anglers not catching, some catching

small fish and a few catching monster blackfish, keep in mind that there may be more than skill involved. Those anglers being skunked are probably fishing off the wreck (position C). Small fish are probably being caught right on top of the wreck (position A), while the largest fish are probably being taken just adjacent to the wreck (position B).

While it is poor etiquette to elbow in among the most successful anglers, remember every wreck has a port and starboard side that usually extends for some distance. By observing how other anglers are faring, you may be able to position yourself accordingly. If you are lucky enough to find an up-current edge of the wreck, get ready to tangle with monster blackfish!

OVER THE RAIL

by Matt Ahern

According to this veteran sinker bouncer, there is no better way to enjoy blackfishing than from the deck of an open boat.

A long time fishing buddy of mine once told me if I wanted to best enjoy blackfishing, I should go out on a party boat. Now I know there are those among us who would dispute this long-time buddy of mine, including myself, for certainly I've had many good blackfishing days when skiff fishing; but all in all, I think the advice is well founded.

I also agree to the extent that I can say I've never gone blackfishing aboard a party boat and failed to get some kind of action. In fact, for the interested beginner there is no better way to learn the art of blackfishing. I know such an angler will learn more in one hour on how to bring fish over the rail than if he (or she) were to devote many frustrating hours (perhaps days) on his own.

Right now as you read this is the time for blackfish. Springtime offers good blackfishing, too, but nothing can compare with the fall season. And fortunately for all concerned, there are many party boat skippers who specialize in fall blackfishing. You'll find them in every fishing port from New Jersey, throughout Long Island, to the far reaches of New England, each a past master at the art of blackfishing.

These super fishermen know the habit and life style of blackfish as few do. And aboard these rugged craft you will find a particular type of fishermen to be found nowhere else in the fishing game. These are the skipper's "regulars." They are fishermen par excellence and it is the wise beginner who cultivates their friendship. Many of these "regulars" know almost as much about blackfishing and its ways as does the skipper. In fact, I've known some of these fellows who often give the skipper a good run for his money, for these are the guys who live and dream blackfishing. They—like the skipper—have made the pursuit of blackfish a lifetime study. If you've never met these fellows, I can guarantee you'll be impressed by their expertise when you do.

Tackle requirements for party boat blackfishing are not elaborate, but they must be exact. This sort of fishing is not for the spinning tackle devotee. This gear can be used, but to do so will lessen the amount of fish caught, for heavy bank sinkers from 5 to 8 ounces are often required to hold

bottom in some areas—especially during full moon periods. No light spinning gear will do this without causing much difficulty for the angler—and those around him at the rail.

A medium-weight conventional rod equipped with a matching reel filled with 20 or 30 lb. test good quality monofilament line is best. My choice has long been the 20 lb. stuff, but the choice is yours. Remember, it is much easier to break off 20 lb. mono when snagged (and rest assured you will be) than it is to struggle with the heavier line. You'll save both time and temper.

Blackfishing is always done at anchor. you may fish over the crumbling bones of a wreck, or over rock-littered areas, but it is never done over open bottom. Such obstructions are "home" for blackfish, therefore, you should expect to lose terminal tackle during the day. As an old blackfishing adage has it: "If you're not hung up from time to time, you're not in the right spot." True enough. Be sure to carry extra #5 Virginia hooks, plus additional sinkers. These can be purchased on board, if necessary. And you may be lucky enough to fish aboard a party boat whose skipper supplies these free. If so, good—for truly the fishing gods have smiled upon you.

Every party boat enthusiast is interested in rail positions. Some fishermen are so obsessed with this that it becomes a fetish. Indeed, many sinker bouncers claim certain rail spots bring good luck. And because of this, these fishermen may even go so far as to refuse to step aboard if their favorite spot is taken. I know one fisherman who thinks nothing of offering to pay the fare of anyone on his "lucky" spot if he will give it up.

Is this foolish? Well...I'm not about to open that can of worms right now, but I believe it is. I will agree, though, that there is always an element of "luck" involved in the fishing game. Certainly we all know or have heard of instances where novices have beaten pool-sharks at their own game. Now, that's luck—no question about it. But here I take a firm stand: I believe, within reason, that it is what a party boat fisherman knows about his sport rather than where he stands that is important.

I'll also admit that when chum is

used, stern positions can be advantageous—sometimes. Take codfishing as an example. It is then when cod fanatics will arrive dockside at midnight (or before) just for the sake of gaining a stern spot at the rail. All well and good, for I've done so myself scores of times. But I gave that foolishness up over 40 years ago once I discovered the bow as the place to be for codfishing. I can't go into the details of why in this article, but I will when codfishing gets into the lime-light. I say all this simply because I've seen many days when chumming for cod failed to produce for those die-hards in the stern—but we fellows in the bow really "knocked 'em dead."

Chum, however, isn't used for blackfish and because of this, blackfishing becomes a little ticklish. What is used, though, is the skipper's knowledge of the area selected, and you can bet he's going to position his boat in such a way all his fishermen have an equal shot at the available fish. Every skipper wants his passengers to catch fish, not just a selected few. This sounds like common sense, but you'd be surprised at how many times disgruntled fishermen believe the skipper is playing favorites when those fishing gods smile at just a few. Believe me, no skipper would be foolish enough to do that—even if he could.

So—fish the stern if you must, but remember just as many blackfish—pool-winners included—are caught along both sides of the boat.

I said blackfishing is ticklish and because of this I believe that when fishing over small wrecks and such areas of limited dimensions, the bow is not the ideal place to be. Unless the fisherman has much experience, "regulars" for instances, he won't know the exact wreck or ground he's fishing without first inquiring. Under such circumstances, the bow is a poor choice. Unless you see fish coming up, stay away from the bow.

Most party boat skippers supply some form of clam for bait. Crab, of course, is better for fall blackfishing. Consider using this bait whenever possible. A piece of green crab, or a whole china-back fiddler placed on a #5 Virginia hook is just about guaranteed to produce a blackfish. Always wait for a good solid tug before attempting to sink the hook. Patience is the key word when black-



Party boat blackfishing is a way of life for many sinker bouncers.

fishing.

Never cast away from the boat when blackfishing. The skipper has placed his boat over the wreck, or over the best producing spot in the area fished. By casting away from it, you defeat your own purpose, for blackfish will **not** leave an area that contains food no matter how enticing your bait. Keep this in mind whenever you try for blackfish whether it be aboard a party boat or skiff.

Most party boat skippers run a pool for the largest fish of the day. I'm sure when the fare is collected many beginners wonder if they should enter. I can't help them make that decision, except to say that if they do enter, they should be prepared for

disappointment. As noted before, a certain amount of luck does enter the fishing game, but as blackfishing is a specialized sport, one requiring much experience to become proficient, I wouldn't rely too much on Lady Luck to beat out the competition.

I don't mean to be discouraging—Lord forbid...that's the farthest thing from my mind. I'm just advising on what to expect. I know that if I were getting my feet wet aboard a party boat, I would certainly enter the pool. Someone's got to win—and who knows, it might be you! Remember those fishing gods! And another thing: the thought of being in the pool certainly adds zest to the day.

Should you be in that pool and you

believe you may have possibly caught the pool-winner—handle it with loving care! Don't exhibit that fish about the boat no matter how proud you are of your skill. The less a potential pool winner is handled, the better. Keep that fish separate—preferably in a burlap bag—and keep the material wet throughout the day. Especially is this important if your fish was caught early in the day. Pools are often decided by ounces and fish exposed to sun and wind lose weight rapidly. A word to the wise is sufficient.

Party boat blackfishing is lots of fun. I feel sure that once you see those fish coming over the rail, you won't be able to wait until you go out again. I can guarantee it.

SURE FIRE METHODS FOR FALL STEELHEAD

Part One — by Lou Truppi

**Here are some tips that should help improve
your score with these outsized rainbows.**

Interestingly enough, once you stake your reputation on a sure fire anything, especially concerned with fishing, you're liable to put yourself in the tenuous position of being all wet. However, I wish to take leave of my senses and stand by my prevailing feelings that there are sure fire ways for an angler to coax these outsized rainbows, especially in the fall.

Significant factors may govern individual catches within a locale. Type of water, lures, color choice, angling style, stage of the run, and localized technique all transcend factors that inspire success.

What I've found during my twenty plus years of chasing these illustrious rainbows halfway across the U.S. and back, is that most neophyte steelhead fishermen must develop a set of basic methods to foster successes on most streams. Once mastered, these techniques can be nurtured to initiate likewise conquests on streams anywhere.

The steelhead angler must at times become a hunter. Any fish that lives most of its life in a large body of water and moves from within its confines and protection due to an urge supplied by nature, must adapt to a stream environment amazingly fast. How you adapt to their habits and needs will surely dictate your catch.

With the exception of specific spring days, I believe the fall fishing to be the best for a multitude of reasons.

First off, the water temperature remains warm. This factor, combined with a fresh run fish keynotes fast paced fall action. Unlike their late winter counterparts that lay semi-dormant due to cold water and lack of nourishment, these bright fish as they are known, will readily attack lures, flies and baits.

The springtime run is often shorter and timing can be critical to your success. I remember vividly one week back in the early 70s when I was fishing the Little Manistee River during April. The previous winter's snow had lingered and a prolonged warm spell induced a rapid melt. Midway through my trip the stream was running full to the bank. Up to that point fishing was spotty due to an exceptionally cold spring that maintained a 37 degree water tempera-

ture. The high water all but shut off our trip. My brother was on the river the next week when all heck broke loose. The high water induced a tremendous run. Steelhead were everywhere and proved to be in a striking mood.

I went back the following week and fished hard for three more days taking a dozen fish. A friend of mine who lived in Michigan called later to tell me the day after I left the fishing dropped off and never did come close to that fantastic ten days or so we had enjoyed.

However, it's nothing for a fall run to begin as early as September and last through December. Early run steelhead will enter a stream hot on the heels of the spawning salmon. In fact, any stream that maintains a run of Pacific salmon can be an excellent choice to pursue fall steelies.

This run continues throughout the fall and winter months periodically replenished by periods of high water, the seasonal changes and late salmon entries.

Most biologists tend to agree that correct water temperature coupled with the hours of daylight combine to initiate the urge for steelhead to spawn. Although it has been my experience that depending on your particular body of water, this run can initiate for various reasons. For instance, a late spring runoff might maintain excessively cold stream run-offs and forestall both the length and timing of the run. A dry fall might induce the same conditions due to a lack of rainfall that would raise the stream's level and drop its water temperature to the point that would trigger the spawning urge.

These are qualities that can govern all steelhead runs and should be closely watched. Of course, these pertain mainly to non-water regulated streams. By this I mean the streams where the flow is not controlled by a dam or other source. This other type of river can offer some of the finest fall angling due to the regularity of its water flows.

So, like the hunter, the fall steelhead angler should avail himself of the working knowledge of several rivers. When conditions are wrong on one, the other might prove the ticket. If you don't live near the streams,

then a close friend who does can provide this information. Many times in the fall, the smaller creeks need a good rainfall to get the run going.

Bear in mind the mid-size streams tend to maintain late season action generally after a period of heavy rainfall or mild weather. The 'bows' will run these creeks through the winter and early spring months.

Steelhead are unlike salmon in the sense that they will not specifically seek their birth stream. They randomly select their spawning stream. Rule of thumb here is that the larger rivers with the heavier flows guide more fish to the outlets due to maximum penetration far out into the lakes that drain their flow.

Recognizing all factors that govern a steelhead run are surely just as important as catching the fish itself.

Always keep in mind that big water fish such as salmon or steelhead tend not to be overly spooky upon entering a stream. They really do not have predators in their open lake homes. Careful approaches, however, will not go unrewarded. Legions of anglers found on some streams tend to counter this condition. One important factor that governs spooking any fish is the size of the stream and its water depth. A shallow, fast paced stream with undercut banks may provide more cover than the deep, clear, slow moving river. Given the same number of anglers per pool without a doubt, the slow stream would yield tougher fishing.

Large pools with swift, long, deep pocket water can provide fast, steady paced fishing. Streams that provide both suitable corridor and holding water are on the top of my list. By corridor water I simply mean open stretches of coverless water that the fish must travel through upon entering the stream or continuing their journey to upstream spawning beds. This corridor water must reflect a constant depth to permit the transference of fish. Generally, sufficient depth is all that is required here since most fish will travel during the hours of darkness anyway.

In accordance with this prerequisite a stream should offer suitable upstream spawning areas and adjacent structure or depth in which to hide. Structure may be as simple as mid-

stream boulders or logs, while log jams, waterfalls or steep, white water narrows may add credence to forms of permanent structure. In fact, many hot upstream bedding areas are usually surrounded by one or more of these features.

As you can see, locating your steelhead is half the problem; the other half, of course, will be the catching.

The early fall fish are generally found in the lower reaches of the larger rivers. Water and air temperatures combine to maximize comfortable fishing conditions this time of year.

Steelhead will succumb to a multitude of lures and baits during the fall. Their aggressive natures induced in many cases by abundant, free floating salmon spawn, dictates action. Neophytes as well as dyed-in-the-wool steelhead anglers all catch their share of fall fish. What governs one fisherman's success and another's failure is probably technique. Once you have established that you're in a good stream holding position, the rest is easy. These fresh fish are not shy because they have not been fished over for several months by hordes of anglers. Although, once they enter the stream to spawn they take very little nourishment, but can readily be agitated into hitting. This is what steelhead fishing is all about. Repeatedly presenting your lure or bait over the holding fish to induce that strike. If you learn nothing else from this

article, than what I'm about to tell you, you should be able to catch a steelhead anywhere.

The key to all steelhead fishing is maintaining bottom contact and feel through the rod. These fish are notorious bottom dwellers. Since most of their streams of residence maintain a swift flow of water, they tend to gravitate to out of the current locations. These spots offer a respite from the swift current and protective cover. The stream bottoms strewn with obstructions form slicks. The current's pace is slackened and more appealing to the bows. Similar slicks can be found throughout the streams.

Get used to fishing these areas! One incident that comes to mind was a memorable day on one of the rivers that drains the Owen Sound region of Canada. If memory serves, it was the mid-60s and the steelhead were just making somewhat of a comeback after a serious bout with the lamprey eel. I found an upstream pool all to myself which in those pre-salmon days was not unusual. Fast moving white pocket water raced to a dog leg in the rear of the hole. A short distance away was the outlet. A log barrier loomed across the river to prevent you from following a hooked fish downstream. What caught my eye was a huge underwater boulder seated smack in the middle of the pool's entrance. A comfortable distance upstream from the log jam and exhibiting deep white water all around. I

chose to begin fishing here. I knew that hooking any steelhead in the pool's deep bend where I would have preferred to fish would probably become an exercise in futility.

I rigged up with several shot about 18 inches above my hook. In those days we used jumbo salmon eggs straight from a jar. My initial drift confirmed that my weight was far too light. The offering was swept past the rock without nary a touch. I added a couple more split shot and proceeded to cast up and across to achieve some depth in the fast water. I now bumped bottom, but lost contact in the deeper water around the rock. I added more shot, many more than I thought would be needed, but worth a try. This time my cast caught bottom. I lifted my rod tip to move my bait thinking now that I surely had added too much weight. As my line raced and approached the boulder, a steelhead struck upstream in a series of jumps that caught me off guard. The fish threw the hook and was free before I even adjusted to what had happened.

This incident and what took place throughout the day enlightened me as to what steelhead fishing was all about. Getting down to where the fish are and secondly, maintaining the all important feel via a tight line would have enabled me to feel that strike and set the hook. That day I went through rigs, but I caught seven fish and lost four. Not bad in those days from one medium sized pool.



A big net is necessary to hold these large rainbows. Here, angler nets fish for his friend who hooked big female steelie on a lure.

STATEN ISLAND FALL MENU

by Rich Giessuebel

The Staten Island shore provides beach anglers with a variety of opportunities.

As the fishing scene takes on an autumn hue, the beaches and rock piles found along the western shoreline of Staten Island become increasingly popular with anglers. From mid-October, weather permitting, well on into December, bluefish, weakfish and striped bass crash the beaches. Soon after, the resident striped bass population will be joined by the tasty and fun to catch winter flounder. In this article, we will take a look at Staten Island and discuss the best locations and techniques used to catch each of these species.

Staten Island isn't all that big. In fact, although it's a circular island, only the western shoreline or some 12 miles of beach is fishable. Stretching from its northernmost fishable point which is located just beyond the Verrazano Narrows Bridge, the beaches spread out south along the lower New York City Bay to Raritan Bay. The northern beaches are characterized by being at the end of city streets, while the southern beaches are more rural and have tree lined streets with residential houses along them right up to the beach.

As far as access to trailered boats, the island offers only two such locations: one in Great Kills Harbor about mid-Island, and the other in Lemon Creek off of Princess Bay to the south. Due to the lack of boat launching facilities, many island residents have taken up the sport of surf casting for their favorite species. As the year progresses, these fishermen have available to them, blackfish or tog, spring flounder, striped bass, weakfish, bluefish, fluke, sand porgies, spot, snapper blues and winter flounder.

There really isn't one beach better than all the rest, but if an angler plays the tides right, he can capitalize on fishing the best tide at several different locations. Also, if he is aware of and fishes off the various structures along this shore, he just may improve his catch. We call these structures collectively, "rock piles!" So, with this introduction, let's begin looking at the beaches and rock piles along Staten Island and see where you might put together a good catch.

At the northern end of Hylan Boulevard, which runs the full

length of the island, is a very fishable beach called "Cliffwood." Although this beach isn't characterized by rock piles, it along with its neighboring "Penny Beach," give up untold catches of blues, weaks, stripers and winter flounder. Under the shadows of the Verrazano Bridge, just cast out a worm rig and allow your bait to get to the bottom. There are very tricky currents here and once the bait has settled, you can expect to catch stripers year-round and winter flounder in season. Should weaks or blues be in the area, they will usually give their presence away by chasing bait up to the surface, where you will be able to catch them on swimming plugs or tins.

Since there is a wide possibility of what you can catch, go prepared! Bring along a surf rod and sand spike. Cast out your bait and prop your rod up in the sand spike. Then keep another lighter rod handy with no more than 10 pound test line and a plug or piece of metal attached to the end of it. Now, you are prepared for whatever comes along.

Further down the beach and directly under the big bridge is Fort Wadsworth. Your ticket to be able to fish here is your fishing outfit. Fishermen are allowed to pass through the gate and make their way to the base of the bridge where huge stripers and bluefish are the game. Often, anglers wearing chest waders will walk out into the water making long casts with swimming plugs into the rapid currents found here.

The best tides are often the last two hours of the outgoing. The best time is if this tide occurs about an hour before sunrise. Another good tide is full flood tide any time after dark while fishing with live eels. Just cast the eel out and let him swim. Lunker bass often feed heavily upon eels at night at this location. So, if you put in enough time, you certainly should catch one or two!

Beyond the Fort, lay miles of sandy beaches. The first beach encountered is South Beach. All along this sandy expanse of desolate beach, there are storm sewers that give up many fish to the throngs of anglers who fish them. To get to South Beach, you can get off Rt. 278 (Staten Island Expressway) at the last exit before the Verrazano or the first exit after crossing the bridge onto Staten Island. Then take Bay Avenue south to Father Capodanno Boulevard. South Beach stretches all along this boulevard. Either park out on the road, or if the parking lots are open, park on the side of the beach in one of the lots.

South Beach is the first beach making up Staten Island's portion of the Gateway National Recreation Area. You can fish all along the entire stretch of beach and especially off the many storm sewers that extend out into Lower New York Bay. These platforms are terrific for catching all the noted species.

For bass and flounder, fish worms



The scene is Cliffwood Beach at the foot of Hylan Boulevard.

right on the bottom. For blues and weakfish, large swimming plugs fished very near high tide are the best. This area is often loaded with mossbunker and when the big blues, stripers and weaks see the swimming plug, it looks like an easy meal. Another way to fish here is with cut bunker or live spot or sand porgy. Simply fish for these smaller fish with small hooks and pieces of worm and once you have caught one, turn it around and fish it alive for bait.

Up from South Beach is Midland Beach. Again, there are several storm sewers jutting out into the bay. Often anglers will cast plugs and bait for the resident game fish in the area. When flounder move in, everyone seems to fish blood or sand worms right on the bottom. There's a good current here, and chumming isn't a bad idea!

The next beach down the road is New Dorp Beach. Right here is Miller's Field which houses the main office of the Gateway National Recreation Area. In Building #1, you will be able to pick up a parking permit for the next location you will want to fish, Great Kills Park. But, while at New Dorp Beach, go to the end of New Dorp Avenue and out to the jetty and storm sewer you will find there.

Fish are taken the length of this jetty and especially off its end. Big blues, weaks, and stripers frequent this location. The best tide is high and the best time to fish that tide is from 7PM on in the evening. Large swimming plugs like the Atom Jr. or an all white Danny or Super Strike Swimmer make the best lure. Also, cut bunker and live spot make good second choices. If you can't connect at the jetty, don't hesitate walking along the beach toward Midland Beach while continuing to cast lures.

If you intend to fish cut bait at this location make it bunker. The best rig for cut bunker is to use a size 6/0 tuna hook at the end of 10 inches of 75 lb. test wire. Place a barrel swivel on the end of the wire and tie to your line. Place a bank style sinker above the wire about 18 inches and cast out. While allowing the bait rod to sit in a sand spike (make certain to loosen your drag), cast around the rocks with your swimming plugs.

From New Dorp Beach, you must go further south in order to reach Great Kills Harbor. Once at Great Kills, you will be able to fish off a wooden bulkhead in the harbor (the best location for flounder), off a jetty into Great Kill's Channel, or at the mouth of the harbor itself. These spots are great for bluefish, weakfish, and fluke, so get your pass at Miller's Field and try fishing at each one of these prime locations.

Along the jetty, you can walk an easy 200 yards back to the inlet to Great Kills Harbor. Cast metal all along this section. Tons of bunker are present here and on an outgoing tide, blues, bass and weakfish often show up for a meal. Should you snag a high swimming bunker, let the heavy lure pull him down toward the bottom.



Casters work a storm sewer at the north end of South Beach.

There, he should come eyeball to eyeball with one of these big game fish.

In the inlet, fish for flounder and spot. Plenty of these fish are taken daily on all tides when they are present. For either of these fish, you will find it best to use pieces of worm and to keep your bait moving ever so slowly along the bottom. By this approach, your bait will cover more territory and you will stand a much better chance of being picked up by a flounder or spot.

On the other side of the harbor is Staten Island Bait and Tackle, 1-718-984-0144. The proprietor, Jim Crockett can fill you in on where the best fishing reports have been coming in from. Bait and lures can be purchased here.

Just past Jim's and Great Kills Harbor you will find a concrete barge sticking out of the water and although I've never fished here, I hear tell that on low tide, you can walk out to the barge and cast for bass and blues that feed on the bunker. It also looks like a great flounder location.

South of Great Kills Harbor, the beaches are covered with pebbles. It is interesting to catch fluke along these beaches and see the way they camouflage themselves to look like the pebble bottom. Besides flukes, blues and bass usually swim along looking for stranded bunker. Big bunker bass in excess of 20 lbs. are caught off these beaches.

A good bet is Arbutus Beach. Here there's a bulkhead where you can cast out to passing stripers and blues. Again, white swimming plugs and

metal lures work the best. Often you will see large fish working on schools of bait along the surface. When you see this, try casting a Hopkins tin at the feeding bass. A slow retrieve is all that's required if the bass are in a feeding mood. If they are not, then either live bunker, spot, eels or the swimming plugs can be used!

From here along the southern beaches to Tottenville, the prime beaches are Huguenot Beach, Seaguide Point at Princess Bay, and Tottenville Beach.

One real good spot along here is in Lemon Creek. This is where the second boat launch is located and the creek produces lots of flounder. Fish for them on the bottom with worms.

This general location is called "the Dental Works," and if you park in the Dental Work's parking lot, you will see an old wooden pier at the end of the lot where you can fish swimming plugs for larger fish.

Finally, at Tottenville, you can cast along the beach to old pilings resting out in the water. Whenever the tide is moving, bass move in to feed on the spot that are feeding on the worms and other crustacean that are clinging to the poles. Catch these bass on cut bait, worms, or lures fished in tight to the poles. Also, expect to catch many sand porgies if you use worms for bait.

Well, that's a pretty good rundown of the entire island. One thing is for sure, and that is that although there are quite a few anglers on the island, come fall, you will never be fishing in a crowd.

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East End REPORT

with Mrs. Lorry Mangan

Present blackfish catches seem to indicate a season rivalling that of the past couple of years, with lots of blackfish apparently sitting next to every rockpike ready to jump on any kind of crab presented to it. Increasing reports of large blackfish, some 11 and 12 pounds, have come in over the weekend. Porgy catches continue very good, both in quality and quantity, with best action apparently at Block Island. Blues continue strong, with a few bass and weakfish reported. Offshore, very good blueshark activity with a few makos around as well. Cod were slow this past week and flounder are stirring.

MONTAUK

Bill Sutorius, Joe Garofalo, Chuck Gifford with friends Frankie, Kevin and Carl loaded up on the charter boat **Windy** last Monday, 10-14 with Capt. Jack Passie. After catching all the blues they wanted, over 50, the group fished bottom catching 18 sea bass to 3 lbs., and about 2 dozen blackfish to 6 lbs. Further adventures of Bill and Joe can be found in the South Fork report.



Michael Albetta, Lou Gazda and John Bantolino had a banner day on 9-13 aboard the Montauk charter boat, "King Wayne." The trio accounted for 15 tuna to 85 lbs., 6 dolphin, 35 blues and 25 bonito.

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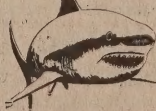
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Captain Fred Bird of the **Flying Cloud** said this is the best October fishing he has seen in years! Recent porgy catches include 100 caught by Frank Condi of Union City, NJ who also won the pool with a 13 lb. bluefish. Robert Blue also had over 100 scup. The fish, besides being numerous, are quite large, with the captain himself catching one of 3½ lbs.

Captain Mike Bentelegna, Jr. fished the New London area on Saturday with Ken and Harvey Holmes for **Pronto** blackfish. The group caught about 40 blackfish, with many in the 8 to 10 lb. range. One fluke jumped on a green crab and was added to the catch.

Captain Steve Mauss described the blackfishing as terrific—when the weather lets you get to them! The **Kraken III** fished on Mad Dog Reef the past week with Capt. Fred Trep-tow, **Misty**, and with Elaine Bloom where numerous blackfish were caught—several in the 10 to 12 lb. class. Captain Mauss remarked that lots of blues, some 20 lbs. are hanging in at Cartwright, while the Point looks like a scene from a Hitchcock movie because of the thousands of bird working over cocktail blues.

Captain Ron Grandinetti fished bluefish over the weekend and really loaded up, using diamond jigs. Saturday's charter included Ron Cantino who found a couple of false albacore with over a hundred bluefish on the **Julie III**. Sunday's group with Dominic Felieu jigged a 10 lb. striper and some bonito with a boat load of blues at the Point and South Side.

Since Captain Paul Forsberg was away on the last Georges Bank trip of the season, Capt. Betty Forsberg relayed the **Viking** fishing report this week. Large and jumbo porgies with some sea bass remain schooled up and feeding at Block Island. Bluefishing is red hot, with very large "gorillagators" stacked up and co-operative on Saturday night bluefish trips. Cod trips were reported as slow this past weekend. The **Viking** fleet will continue sailing for porgies and blues as long as the fish hold up.

Charlie Fuchs commented on the terrific amounts of blackfish brought into **Star Island Yacht Club** the past week; coolers full of fish, with many 10 and 12 lb. blacks on any kind of crab, with green crabs the easiest to get. Lots of bluefish are, of course, hanging in at Montauk, with a few stripers trotted under them.

Captain Dusty Dorzbacher reported great porgy catching on the **Little Bear** on Saturday. The boat's last sailing of the season will take place this upcoming weekend after which the **Bear** will hibernate for the winter! Captain Dusty will see you again next spring!

Captain Richie Rade reports super porgy catching on the **Marlin IV** with 40 to 80 per man average. The fish are mostly large and jumbos—weighing 1½ to 3 lbs. Mr. Peel of the Bronx not only caught 64 porgies on a trip last week, but topped his catch off with a



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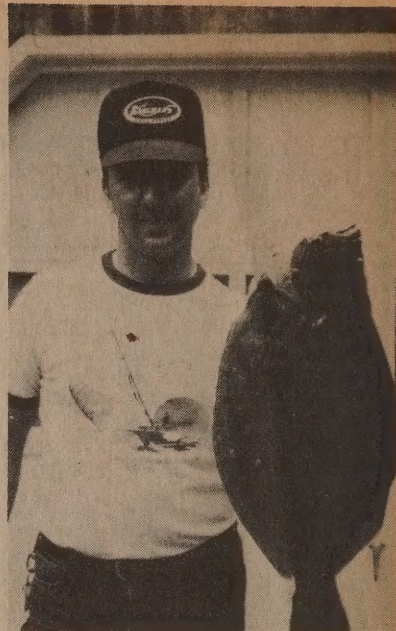
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Ray Solinas displays the 10 lb. doormat fluke he landed on a squid and sand eel combo near the lighthouse at Montauk. The big "flatie" was weighed at Gone Fishing Marina.

and Cerebus Shoals with he and his friend Tommy catching a couple of dozen on a short trip on Saturday. Those who put in a full day, Lori-Jay, loaded up with as many as two Igloo coolers full of medium to large blackfish. Bluefish remain at the Point, with a few bass and weaks under them.

Captain Bill Ricca of the **Alyssa Ann** anticipates a great blackfish year, since catches are increasing daily. On Saturday, while fishing with his friend Gene Ritter on the "Barbara Ann," the pair caught 71 blackfish, some which weighed 8 lbs. A bucket of porgies and sea bass was a by-catch. On Sunday, although bassing was slow, Bernie Avalone loaded up with blues in the 2 to 7 lb. range with some bonito and false albacore using diamond jigs on the South Side. Captain Ricca has a few dates available on the **Alyssa Ann** for November blackfish. Call for information.

Captain Jim Flowers enjoyed a couple of good shark trips on the charter boat **Mary-A** last week. On Monday, 10-14, on a trip to the Fingers, L. Limitone successfully fought and boated a mako of 176 lbs. along with a 254 lb. blue shark. Three other blue sharks were released. Later in the week, Mr. Capalano fished the same area, finding the same blue shark action. Four sharks were released, a 300 lb. blue shark was caught. A very large shark was fought for over 1/2 hour before breaking off, sight unseen. On Friday, the Schimizu party, trolled for bass in the morning, finding one keeper in the Elbow. The remainder

7½ lb. sea bass which took a clam bait. Sunday's trip, fishing Block Island was exceptionally good. Captain Rade will fish for blues Saturday nights only, as long as the blues are around. Because the porgy run is so good, the **Marlin IV** will continue fishing for them at least until Election Day, switching to cod/blackfish when the scup leave.

Captain Joe McBride of the charter **My Mate** fished with Scott Beach and his friends from New Jersey on Saturday, when the group loaded up with blues and albacore. Sunday's group which included Hank De Stephano of Yonkers caught lots of blackfish, some to 12 lbs., at Cerebus Shoals, then fished blues at the Point, finding a few weaks with them.

Captain Phil Lewis sailed offshore on a shark trip on Monday, 10-14, finding the best shark action of the season with Dominick Ferrante and his Brooklyn friends. Blue sharks apparently were waiting for the **Adios**, since there was constant action almost the minute the boat stopped. All blue sharks—very large fall sharks—were released. One mako of about 100 lbs. was brought back to dock. Bad weather inhibited offshore trips the rest of the week, however, on Thursday, three bass were caught under bluefish; on Friday Mr. Summons jigged four bass, top weight 25 lbs. amongst "zillions of blues."

Edelman's Lou Rosado reports fine fall fishing, when the weather allows. He spoke of blackfish at Shagwong

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of the morning was spent on bluefish and fun fishing—casting for false albacore with light tackle. A try at blackfish in the afternoon at Outer Shagwong put 30 blackfish, some porgies and sea bass into the fish box.

SOUTH FORK

Dick Mendelman remarked that plenty of large bluefish to 17 pounds, are taking popping plugs at the Ruins, according to anglers checking in at Harbor Marina at Three Mile Harbor. There has been a good showing of blackfish on the backside of Plum Island on green crabs. Porgie activity in the area has slowed down.

Apparently I picked the worst day of the week for blackfishing at Mad Dog Reef on the Wilhelms II, since on

Tuesday, even 20 ounces of lead couldn't hold bottom because of very strong new moon tides. However, the next day, Wednesday, with a slightly slower tide, anglers were able to cash in on big fish. Dave Roys copped the pool with a black of 12½ pounds, among 16 in his catch. Billy Sutorius had an 11 pound black. Saturday's trip to a Peconic Wreck (winds dictated local fishing) was a bummer. On Sunday, back at Mad Dog Reef, anglers were treated to a blackfish blitz, with Joe Garofalo of East Rockaway winning the pool with a 12½ pound black (he caught 13 fish), and second place taken by Billy Sutorius with an 11½ pound fish (Bill had 25). According to Captain Lach, at least 300 blackfish were caught on Sunday. The Wilhelms II will fish Mad Dog Reef, winds permitting, on all future trips this year, since that's

where the big fish are.

A talk with Joe at Sherry & Joe Corr's Best Boatworks in Southampton revealed that some flounder are stirring west of the Ponquogue Bridge. Offshore, loads of bluefish are still around. A shark trip found a few blue shark.

The Shinnecock Basket holds very fat flounder as does Heady Creek, with average catches this week eight to twenty per angler. Thom Speckenback feels that the flounder run will start in the next few weeks. Judging from the green crabs sold at Speck's Bait and Tackle over the weekend, this looks like a dynamite blackfish season. Most blackfishermen were headed for traditional areas such as Little Gull and Plum Islands, Cerebrus Shoals, Shagwong, and Gardiner's Island (north side). Lots of bluefish in and around Shinnecock

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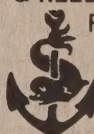
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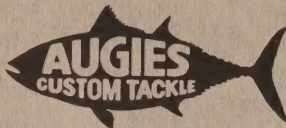
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Inlet, according to Thom. Several anglers plan to try offshore wrecks this week (Coimbra, Panther). We should have reports on this in the next issue.

Chris Salb saw a catch of blackfish brought into Bayview Marine & Tackle on Sunday. Dave Simkis, Rick Pickering, and Roger McDowell launched at the marina ramp, sailed to Orient, and returned with 30 blackfish, averaging three to four pounds, caught on green and fiddler crabs. Chris remarked that snappers won't quit and are still around and getting bigger. Good size flounder are holding up at Cedar Point, with smaller fish at Northwest Creek and Sag Harbor Cove. Chris asked us to remind you that he will be open until Christmas should you plan some early gift shopping.

Larry Mangarillo felt that bad weather reports this past weekend kept many people home cleaning up after the hurricane instead of fishing. Rumors of bass have come into Corr's Mariner's Cove. Lots of blues still around, with the West Bar a particular hot spot.

South Shore REPORT

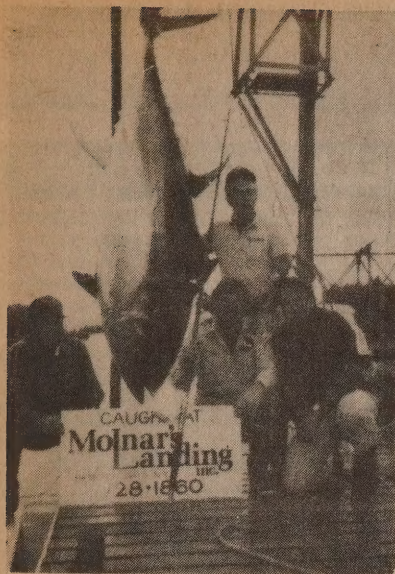
with Fred Golofaro

Improved flounder fishing created a more fall-like picture to the local fishing scene this week but the continuation of good tuna fishing on the Bacardi, big snappers at docks in the western range of our reporting area and very good crabbing are proof that things are still way behind schedule.

MORICHES BAY & INLET

Gary Grunseich of Silly Lily Fishing Station in East Moriches said that he finally saw some decent flounder scores this week. Several catches of 20 to 40 flatties were taken at the mouths of Tuthills Cove and Hart Cove. During the week John Perry and Bob Rose counted 50 flatties, most in the 1-2 pound range. They were taken on bloodworms and heavy mussel chum. Gary noted that there are plenty of big blue claw crabs available at buoy 27. They are being taken in traps and on rings on bunker bait.

Larry Dallaire over at L & M Marine in East Moriches had his first good flounder score of the fall to report. Don Costello, Joe Quinn, Herb Brofsky and Dan Gross, all of Irvington, NY put away 67 keepers to 1 1/2 pounds while working buoy 52 in the Quogue



Lanny Molnar, with rod, whipped this 596 lb. giant tuna aboard Capt. Fred Muhs, Geraldine, in 130 feet of water S.E. of Shinnecock Inlet. Photo courtesy of Molnar's Landing in Hampton Bays.

Canal. Heavy mussel chum and blood and sandworms accounted for the action.

GREAT SOUTH BAY/ FIRE ISLAND INLET

From J & J Tackle in Patchogue, Paul Graniello said that some small flounder are now being picked from the Blue Point Dock. The Patchogue Town Dock has produced a couple of small flatties as well. Local boatmen began taking some flatties in the main channels this week. Blackfishing remains good at Kismet but you must fish around the tide changes. One customer has been working the buoy 4/Heckscher Park area and taking a mixed bag of sea bass, flounder and blowfish on worms. Paul did hear of some fair flounder catches made in Great Gun Channel in Moriches Bay. In Moriches Inlet, umbrella rig trollers have been doing a steady job on big blues.

Al Colban at J & R Sports Center in Oakdale checked over a catch of 50 blues and a couple of bonito made on Friday by Ed Kohler and friends. Most of the blues range from 4 to 5 pounds and were taken on umbrella rigs just outside of Moriches Inlet. Blackfishing remains solid on Kismet Reef. During the week, 12 year old Anthony Aldridge landed a 6 pounder. He and his family counted 30 nice blacks among their catch. On Friday John and Roberta Connely, aboard their Pintail, landed 30 blackfish up to 6½ pounds. Fishing was done at Kismet with green crabs. Al also reported some good blackfish scores made at

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the R.M. Bridge this past week. Flounder fishing showed some signs of improvement. Al checked out one decent score made in the Babylon Cut prior to the weekend.

Capt. Neil Delaney of the Bay Shore open boat **Casey Lee** reported good blackfishing in the bay all week long. On Saturday, Joe Bonanno copped the pool with a 9.1 pound tog. It was the largest of 30 blacks taken by the angler. Sunday's pool fish was an 8.9 pound black. Despite the good blackfish action, Neil said that he will be making the switch to flatties by this upcoming weekend. His sailing schedule henceforth will be Saturday, Sunday and holidays only through Veteran's Day, after which that will be it for the season.

Capt. Andy Buglione of the Captree based charter boat **Captain Andy** called to report a decent day of blackfishing for his charter on Saturday. Andy said that he worked inside the bay and in addition to the blacks, the party landed a mixture of flounder, sea bass, one ling and one fluke in ad-

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dition to the blacks.

Capt. Gordon Roman of the open boat **Captree Queen II** spoke of super bluefish action on Thursday and Saturday night's trips. Friday's fishing was poor according to the skipper. During the day, there has been consistently good action on ocean wrecks and reefs for a mixture of sea bass, porgies and blacks. Sea bass and blackfish dominated the catches most of the week, but on Sunday, which Gordon described as the best sinker bouncing trip of the fall, a large number of porgies and sea bass filled the bags of anglers.

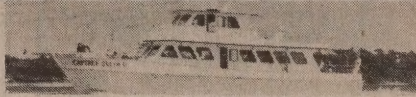
Capt. Fred Laier of the charter boat **Eagle** added a new dimension to Captree fishing this season with his special offshore and canyon trips. This weekend's charter for Ed Unkel and friends from Copiague was a perfect example. Leaving port Saturday afternoon and returning Sunday afternoon, the party put away 15 tuna from 40 to 80 pounds along with some blues and bonito. Fishing was done on the wreck of the Bacardi. Chumm-

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ing with sandeels and spearing and using butterfish baits accounted for the action. In addition, there was plenty of action with sharks during the night, mostly the blue variety. A nearby boat did drop and estimated 300 pound mako at the boat.

Capt. Carl Passaro of the open boat **Miss Captree** reported a good weekend with sea bass on several ocean wrecks. Most of the bass range from ¾ on up to 3½ pounds. Sunday's catch saw some nice porgies mixed with the bass. On Friday, 8 fares accounted for 150 sea bass while Sunday saw one of the best catches of the season, 19 fares accounted for over 600 mixed sea bass and porgies. Carl reminded that the boat will be hauled for its annual check up on Monday, 10/28, and will return to action and assume its regular sailing schedule on Saturday, November 2nd. He added further that the fall run of blackfish is still to come on the ocean wrecks and reef.

Some very impressive blackfish were taken by shore fishermen on the

weekend according to Noel Kappauf of **Captree Bait and Tackle**. Fishing near the sight of the old construction dock at Robert Moses, Rija Mantyla of Amityville beached a 10.5 pound blackfish on Saturday. Same day, Hermonogenes Marar pulled a 7.14 pound blackfish from the Robert Moses Fishing Pier. The largest blue weighed in this week went to Joe Pedrone who decked a 19.2 pound slammer aboard the **Speedy VII** on Thursday.

Capt. Rod Westerlind of the **Captree** open boat **Capt. Rod** reported the first decent showing of flounder on the Heckscher Park grounds late last week. Flatfish of mixed sizes were picked at every drop and pool fish on some of the trips ran to 2 pounds. The current cold snap should give the fishing a good lift.

Capt. George Tweedy of the **Capt. Scotty 3** reported a good week with blues of mixed sizes. Fish ranging anywhere from 4 on up to 17 pounds and plenty of 12 pounders mixing in. Fishing has been consistent on both day and night trips with lots of sea

bass taken on the day trips as well. Beginning this week, night bluefish trips will be limited to Friday, Saturday and Sundays—7PM.

Capt. Bob Newbauer of the open boat **Miss Babylon** reported a good day with the flatfish on Sunday. It was the first good showing of flounder on the north side of the bay this fall. Rich and Blanche D'Attore accounted for 30 flatfish apiece while Fred Morich accounted for the pool with a 1¼ pounder. Most of the keepers fell into the ¾ to 1 pound class. Bob said that he worked the East/West Channel and found fish in most of the deep holes from Babylon to Massapequa, among them Bergen Point and Copiague Hole. Incoming tide and clam and worm bait were the ticket. Of Saturday's fishing, the skipper labelled it just a pick.

Tom Healy of **Augie's Bait and Tackle** in **Babylon** said that blackfishing continues to produce fine catches at Kismet and the R.M. Bridge. During the week, Bruce and his son Brian Morabito along with

Jack Uhland accounted for 2 dozen nice blacks at Kismet. Saving several of the smaller blacks for the bait well, the trio drifted them in the swirling currents of Fire Island Inlet. Eleven year old Brian connected with 12.13 pound weak while Jack nailed a 13½ pound tiderunner. Tom himself sampled the blackfishing at the Robert Moses Bridge. His best fish on Friday was just 2 ounces shy of 6 pounds. Flounder action was on the upswing this week with Chris "The Clammer" accounting for 17 flatties off of Babylon. His biggest weighed in a 2 pounds 6 ounces. On Sunday, Joe Schwartz had a 1.9 pound flatie along with 11 others while fishing opposite the Babylon pool. The Babylon Tuna Club's annual flounder derby was settled by a 1½ pound flatie taken by Ed Finn. Dave Nowinski nailed down 2nd place with a 1.5 pounder while Jack Uhland and Bob Schwartz tied for third with 1¼ pound flatties. Key to the best flounder scores has been heavy clam chum. Big blues are being chummed at the NA Buoy but not all the big choppers are there. Paul Kraus livelined a bunker in the Inlet and nailed a 17.11 pound chopper during the week. Bluefin tuna from 20 on up to 150 pounds continue to reside on the wreck of the Bacardi. The Irish Faker, Centurion and Red, White and Blue all did a job on the tuna late in the week and on Saturday. Tom added that the market is apparently glutted with tuna and urged anyone cashing in on this wild fishing to consider releasing any fish not being kept for eating. Chumming is being done with sandeels and spearing while butterfish seems to be the favorite bait for the tuna. Crabbing now very good in the State Channel and at the Sore Thumb with traps.

Over at Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle, Mike Andreani reported weighing a 28 pound striper for Terry Fisher on Friday. It was livelined on a bunker at the inlet. Jim Grandeo and friends worked the north side of the bay in 6 to 7 feet of water opposite Bay Shore and put away 43 flatties on Saturday and 35 more on Sunday. The fish ranged up to 1¼ pounds. Mike noted the improved flounder action on the north side of the bay in the East/West Channel and off of Bergen Point. Blackfishing remains solid at Kismet with the key being working either side of the tidal changes when the current has slackened off. Still big snappers being taken at the local docks.

Chester Shew at Z Crab Tackle in Copiague looked over some impressive weakfish taken this past week in Fire Island Inlet. He checked in 4 tiderunners from 11½ to 12½ pounds for Glen and Bill Cognap. The pair drifted live blackfish for the weeks. Some equally impressive blackfish continue to be taken locally. Glen Rankin and his son Reid accounted for tautog of 10¼ and 9½ pounds at the Robert Moses Bridge on the weekend. Flounder fishing now solid in Massapequa Cove and some very good crabbing near the Sore

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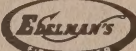


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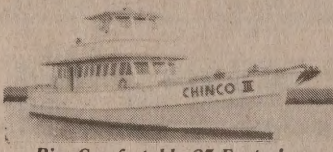
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Thumb pocket for those with traps. Steve Seirock and Bill Biscardi journeyed to Montauk and returned with a couple of impressive blacks of their own. Steve nailed a 13¼ pound tog while Bill's best weighed in at 10¼ pounds. During the week, Fred Hagemayer and Bill Wenzel treked off to the Bacardi and returned with a nice catch of bluefin and yellowfin tuna. Chester said that a number of customers cashed in on a blitz of bluefish near the Wantagh Bridge on Tuesday. Blues to 22 pounds were taken by boatmen drifting live bunker. Huge snappers or baby blues, whichever you prefer, continue to provide action at the local docks.

From **Bob's Bait and Tackle** in **Amity Harbor**, Bob Vitale reported looking over a load of blues, bonito and albacore trolled by the Gorgen family aboard their *Slow & Easy* on Sunday. They fished SE of the inlet in 45' of water. Dave Pincus loaded the box of his *Hey Lady* with 5 to 10 pound blues on Sunday. He fished over the San Diego with diamond jigs. Steve Rea weighed a 15.10 pound blue on Friday and is the current leader of the shop contest. Flounder fishing improved noticeably this week with good catches reported from the East/West Channel and Bergen Point on clam chum and bloodworms. On Sunday,

George Braun and friends put 30 good sized flaties aboard his *Sanity*. Same day, Pat and Joe Grasso filled a pail with nice flaties. Both catches were made at Bergen Point. Bob added that



Robert Gorman nailed this 7 lb. albacore in the West End II surf on a bucktail teaser. It was checked at Beckmann's Tackle in Lynbrook.

flounder, snapper blues and blue claw crabs are all being taken from the dock at Tanner Park.

Speaking from **Edelman's in Farmingdale**, Frank Pristera noted improved flounder action at Bergen Point and Amity Cut with bigger fish at the latter spot. There are plenty of bonito, albacore and small blues in 40 feet of water east of the inlet. On Sunday, the private boat *J.C. Hooker* put away a load of blues to 4 pounds, bonito and albacore on umbrella rigs. Blackfishing remains very good with some nice catches of big fish reported from the northwest corner of the R.M. Bridge.

West End REPORT

with Stu Miller

Hottest fishing of the week has been the jumbo bluefish ranging from 12 to 22 lbs. and being taken mostly on bait at Cholera and 17 Fathoms. On some days it's a pick on these monsters and other days it's a slaughter. Flounder have ranged this week from slow to good depending on the day. Seasonal catches of weaks and stripers are being made by trollers working off the beaches, while the bridges and rocky areas and wrecks are producing super blackfish catches.

WEST END BAYS/ JONE'S INLET

From **Wanser's Tackle** in Seaford Lon says although the floundering was generally poor all week, a few decent catches were put together at Four Corners, Massapqua Cove and Haunts Creek. Flattie action is expected to pick up greatly as soon as the water temps fall. Lon tells of super blackfishing at the Big M, 3rd Wantagh, Rota Wreck and T Wrecks. A few weakfish being wormed along with some bass at the 3rd Wantagh. Lon also tells of 86-yr. old Grandma Haung caught a 9½ lb. blue while flounder fishing in Zachs Bay.

Over in Wantagh Mike at **Causeway Tackle** describe flounder action as fair on the weekend with best catches in Rowboat Alley and Broad Creek in the Merrick area. Incoming water and clam bait was the ticket. Fish were scattered all around and were taken 8 to 20 per bot. Four Corners was another decent spot. Blackfishing has been good with fish at the 2nd Wantagh going to 8 lbs. The 3rd Wantagh and Meadowbrook

High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables: To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion table. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that area station above. Example: Shinnecock Inlet. —0 50 is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK		BREAKWATER HARBOR		NEW YORK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE PORT		NEWPORT		DATE
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
THURS.	5:40	5:55	6:35	6:50	6:20	6:35	7:25	7:45	9:40	10:05	9:05	9:30	5:20	5:45	10/24
FRI.	6:25	6:40	7:20	7:35	7:05	7:20	8:05	8:25	10:25	10:55	9:50	10:15	6:05	6:25	10/25
SAT.	7:05	7:20	8:00	8:10	7:45	8:00	8:40	9:05	11:10	11:35	10:30	10:55	6:50	7:10	10/26
SUN.	6:40	7:00	7:30	7:50	7:25	7:40	8:15	8:35	10:45	11:10	10:10	10:30	6:30	6:45	10/27
MON.	7:15	7:35	8:05	8:25	7:55	8:15	8:45	9:10	11:15	11:45	10:40	11:05	7:05	7:25	10/28
TUES.	7:50	8:10	8:40	9:00	8:30	8:45	9:20	9:50	11:35	—	11:20	11:40	7:45	8:00	10/29
WED.	8:20	8:45	9:10	9:35	9:00	9:20	9:55	10:25	12:05	11:45	11:50	—	8:20	8:40	10/30
THURS.	8:55	9:20	9:50	10:10	9:30	9:55	10:30	11:00	12:20	12:10	12:20	12:25	9:00	9:20	10/31

On Sandy Hook		Beach Channel Bridge +0 38 J.F.K. Airport +0 26		Lyme, highway bridge +1 24 Essex +1 38 East Haddam +2 41 Higgenum Creek +2 54		Sunrise/Sunset				
STATEN ISLAND +0 27 ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS -0 01 Red Bank, Navesink River +1 48 Long Branch -0 34 SHARK RIVER INLET -0 18 Shark River Basin +0 27 MANASQUAN INLET -0 12 Seaside Park -0 33 Mantoloking bridge +5 34 TOMS RIVER +4 37 Waretown +2 33 BARNEGAT LIGHT -0 20 Manahawkin Bridge +2 33 Beach Haven +1 47 LITTLE EGG INLET -0 01 Seven Islands +0 12 Graveling Point +1 05 Mullica River +1 55 Grassy Bay +1 08 ABSECON INLET +0 14 Atlantic City Pier -0 26 Great Egg Harbor Inlet +0 12 GREAT EGG HARBOR +0 44 CORSON INLET +0 09 TOWNSENDS INLET +0 06 HEREFORD INLET +0 02 Grassy Sound Bridge +0 45 Cape May Harbor -0 02 Rehoboth Beach -0 07 INDIAN RIVER INLET +0 41 SHINNECOCK INLET -0 50 Shinnecock Bay +1 25 East Quogue +2 45 Shinnecock Canal +1 18 Indian Reservation +3 05 MORICHES INLET -0 56 Smith's Point +3 28 Hart's Cove +1 30 Pontunk Point +3 35 Mastic Beach +3 28 FIRE ISLAND INLET -0 38 Democrat Point -0 38 Coast Guard Station -0 19 Fire Island Light +0 47 GREAT SOUTH BAY Sayville (Brown Creek) +3 39 Heckscher State Park +3 20 Bay Shore +2 23 Babylon +2 12 Amityville +2 21 JONES INLET -0 19 Zachs Bay +1 25 Seaford Harbor +2 05 Freeport Creek +0 34 E. ROCKAWAY INLET -0 06 Long Beach Bridge +0 19 ROCKAWAY INLET 0 00		On Bridgeport		Lloyd Point +0 08 Cold Spring Harbor +0 08 Bayville Bridge +0 13 Eatons Neck Point +0 03 Northport Bay +0 03 Norwalk Islands +0 10 Smithtown Bay +0 08 Cranes Neck Point +0 05 Port Jefferson Hbr. entrance +0 03 New Haven Harbor +0 08 Mount Sinai Harbor +0 05 Herod Point -0 07 Mattituck Inlet +0 05 Horton Point -0 20 Truman Beach -0 42 Falkner Island -0 13 Sachem Head -0 10 Branford Harbor -0 07 New Haven Harbor entrance -0 08 Milford Harbor -0 07 Stratford, Housatonic River +0 27 Shelton, Housatonic River +1 36 Black Rock Harbor entrance -0 03 Saugatuck River entrance -0 01 South Norwalk +0 10 Greens Ledge -0 01 Stamford +0 04 Cos Cob Harbor +0 06 Greenwich +0 02		On Willets Point		Little Neck Bay -0 10 Execution Light -0 06 Manhasset Bay -0 01 Hempstead Harbor -0 11 City Island -0 03 Rye Beach -0 28 Port Chester -0 09 Mamaroneck -0 08 New Rochelle -0 24 Davids Island -0 02		
		On New London		On Breakwater Harbor		Moonrise/Moonset				
		Orient +0 36 Little Gull Is. (Race) +0 12 Greenport +1 04 Southold +1 43 New Suffolk +2 26 South Jamesport +2 32 Shinnecock Canal +2 33 Noyack Bay +2 05 Sag Harbor +0 59 Three Mi. Hbr., Gardiners Bay +0 21 Promised Land, Napeague Bay -0 14 Montauk Inlet -0 25 Montauk Point, north side -1 13 Niantic +1 20 Stonington, Fishers Is. Sound -0 33 Noank, Mystic River ent. -0 23 THAMES RIVER Smith Cove entrance -0 01 Norwich +0 12 CONNECTICUT RIVER Saybrook Jetty +1 10		CAPE MAY POINT -0 10 Miami Beach +0 17 East Pt., Maurice River Cove +0 53 Egg Island Point +0 33 Cape Henlopen -0 05 ROOSEVELT INLET +0 09 Mispillion River entrance +0 33		DAY / DATE: RISE: SET: THU. 10/24 6:22 5:04 FRI. 10/25 6:24 5:03 SAT. 10/26 6:25 5:02 SUN. 10/27 6:26 5:01 MON. 10/28 6:27 5:00 TUE. 10/29 6:28 4:59 WED. 10/30 6:29 4:58				
				On New York		Moon Phases				
				Jersey City +0 07 George Washington Bridge +0 46 Sputen Duvyl, W/RR bridge +0 58 Ossining +1 53 Peekskill +2 24 West Point +3 16 Newburgh +3 42		NEW 1st Qtr. FULL Last Qtr.     10/14 10/20 10/28 11/5				
				On Newport		The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES				
				Sakonnet -1 10 Tiverton (between bridges) +0 21 Beavertail Point -0 02 Prudence Is., Sandy Point +1 10 Bristol +1 10 Warren +0 21 Nayatt Point +0 12 Pawtucket, Seekonk River +0 21 East Greenwich +0 16 Wickford +0 12 Narragansett Pier -0 08 Point Judith Hbr. of Refuge -0 07 BLOCK ISLAND Great Salt Pond +0 05 Block Island (Old Harbor) -0 14 Watch Hill Point +0 44		The schedule of solunar periods below will help plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during the time when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however. The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold typeface. The minor periods are shorter in duration and the lighter typeface.				
						AM PM Minor Major Minor Major Thurs. 2:35 8:35 2:45 9:00 Fri. 3:15 9:15 3:25 9:35 Sat. 3:50 9:50 4:00 10:10 Sun. 3:25 9:25 3:35 9:45 Mon. 4:00 10:05 4:15 10:25 Tues. 4:40 10:50 5:00 11:10 Wed. 5:25 11:50 6:00 — Thurs. 6:15 12:05 6:45 12:30				

were also hot, high slack best. Tuesday through Friday, a lot of big blues were caught in the bay and state channel. Most effective was live bunker or chunks for these teen blues. Ten to 12 lb. stripers have been taken on bunker at the bridges and Jones Inlet. A few weaks on worms with a prime example a 16 lb. weak on Monday for Pat McKeon. Paul Grippio bagged an 8 lb. weak on a sandworm. There's been fair blue claw activity in traps off Massapequa And Seaford.

From **Garan's Tackle** in Merrick, Gary tells of good flounder action in the high flats drain area, between the bridge and Hudson Canal on worms. Plenty of blues at Cholera hitting bait smack on the bottom. Big fish. Green crabs and fiddlers are taking blackfish nicely at the Big M.

Moving over to Freeport we hear from the **Freeports Boatmens Association** it's been all big blues this week mainly at Cholera but also at the Sisters and 17 Fathoms on bait. Fish have been running 12 to 22 lbs. On the **Super Spray II** the ocean wreck trips are yielding blacks 4 to 5 lbs. and sea bass to 3½ lbs. with a good sprinkling of big porgies also. Tuna is still a hot item at the Bacardi Wreck. BFTs 80 to 140 lbs. along with some yft and bets.

The word from **Hudson Point Fishing Station** Honcho Bunzie Bauer also named the Barcardi as the hot tuna spot all this past week with lots of action and most boats limiting out. Fish are all BFTs up to 200 lbs. Flounder action has been good on the flats and at the drains but not in deep water. Lots of sea bass and blacks at the bridges. Still some fair fluking in Haunts, all keepers on flounder strips or squid. Big blues being trolled along the beaches and at Cholera. BCCs in Baldwin Harbor and off Ocean side in traps at the edges, slack water best.

A call from the **Bluefin Fleet** told of blues, excellent in both sizes and quantities on bait. Vic Passudetii of Manhattan hoisted 21 gorillas to 15 lbs. while Bill Richardson of New Hyde Park also had a 15 lber. A 14 lbers. rewarded the efforts of John Robinson of New Hyde park as did a 13 lber. for Ray Agila of Queens Village. Local offshore wrecks produced some very good action on sea bass, ling, black and porgies for Digital electronics.

We hear from the **Capt. Andy II** that his flounder trips have been having good results particularly on Thursday, Friday and Saturday with high hooks from the upper teens to low 20s. Fishing has been local in Swift, Fundy and Sea Dog Creeks with fish fat, going 3/4 to 2 lbs.

Word from the **Capt. Lou Fleet** is that the **CL III** picked away all week with high hooks 25 to 30 fish per trip. Tuesday also saw a blitz on blues to 20 lbs. in the bay. Aboard the **CL V** high hooks ran 15 to 20 fish per trip. Hal Kahn of Albertson took a \$100 pool with a 3 lber. while Sid Reznik took another pool with a 2½ lb. flattie. Please note that Dec. 7th will be the

boat's annual customers party.

We heard from the **Miss Freeport II** that floundering was good through Thursday but tough the rest of the week and weekend. Sizes have been good straight through, however, said the skipper with fish averaging 1 to 1½ lbs. on worms and all in very local waters.

Aboard the charter boat **Sea Hunter III** on Monday, 55 BFTs were boated, going 40 to 135 lbs. for 14 fares. Most fish were in the 70 to 80 lb. range, with the catch being made a short distance NW of the Bacardi on butters along with spearing/bunker chum. The skipper said dawn and dusk were most productive.

Aboard Capt. Richie Kessinger's **Starstream II**, the skipper said Cholera provided very good bluefish action Saturday and Sunday. All the fish are big now, ranging from 12 to 22 lbs. Most are being taken on bait and a few on jigs. A few albies are also being taken.

On the charter boat **Lady J III** Saturday's trip for AT&T Downstate employees club had decent flounder fishing in the bay plus a good pick of sea bass and porgies at the Big M. Sunday's trip for Foodtown saw big bluefish taken on bait at Cholera.

Over in Pt. Lookout we hear from the **Miss Point Lookout** of some good days, some slow days this week. On Wednesday Marty Barnett had a 2 lb. pool winner while Irv K, a regular was high hook with 14 flatties. On Thursday's PM trip a 4 lb. weak took the pool. Friday's PM trip was excellent with Tony Valani bagging 19 flounder plus a 2½ lbs. pool winner. Regular Harry had 22. Saturday AM Irv K returned and hoisted a 2¼ lb. pool fish while in the PM Dave Dorman and a 3 lb. blackfish took the pool. Sunday AM regular Seymour had 6 flounder plus a 2¼ lb. pool winner. Ronnie expects catches this week to be on the increase.

Captain Dennis of the charter boat **Marie III** told of Monday's trip for Frank Calarco of Riverdale VFW. Bluefishing was excellent at Cholera with Frank high hook with 18 fish. Everything was bait and chum. Sunday's trip for Keith Krebs had a slow pick of blues and sea bass at Cholera but all the fish were very big.

Word from Capt. Al Lindroth of the **Captain Al**, told of excellent day bluefishing all week. Thursday night was very good and although Friday night was slow, Saturday night bounced back and there were over 400 blues caught that night. Friday and Saturday's day fishing were off but everything bounced back again on Sunday. Fares have been getting sea bass to 4 lbs., blackfish to 5 lbs., porgies to 3 lbs. and bluefish to 21 lbs.

Word from **Scotty's Fishing Station** is that flounder have been caught in decent numbers in Long Creek south of the loop bridge. Adam Nawpoth on the boat Gypsy had 47 flatties on worms, while Jim Delano of Point Lookout had 2 large weaks on mullet

chunks, one of which weighed in at 13¾ lbs. Blackfish action has been excellent at the Loop and Meadowbrook bRidges on fiddlers and green crab while blues have been biting best at Cholera on chunk bait with these fish being 15 to 20 lbers.

At **Beckmann's Tackle** in Lynbrook Charlie's customers knew all about the excellent blackfishing at the bridges on fiddlers. They'd also given him word of fair to good flounder fishing in Reynolds channel, from the trestle to sloop. Boats trolling from the inlet to 40 ft. out along the beaches have been catching lots of blues on umbrellas and baby bunker spoons, with an occasional weak and bass being taken also.

NEW YORK BIGHT

We learn from **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle** in Jamaica Bay of Howard Perry and his 5½ lb. black taken on incoming on a green crab at Manhattan Beach. Al Sanchez bagged a 20¼ lb. blue off the North Channel bridge on outgoing tide. Pat Fisano had a 20 lb. blue on the flood in the Brighton Beach area. Blackfish a solid item at both bridges on greens and fiddlers.

Fishing out of Sheepshead Bay Capt. Bob of the **Flamingo III** reports his fares had super jumbo fall bluefish all week through Friday. Action was super hot said Bob. However, Saturday was picky. Sunday started out picky, but ended up with very good catches. Best areas have been Cholera, 17 and offshore Sea Bright. Fish have been ALL JUMBOs. Some albies mixed in.

We hear from Captain Butch of the **Zephyr** he's been having good blackfishing all week throughs Sunday with fish taken to 8 lbs. and larger ones dropped.

North Shore REPORT with Marty Garrell

Except for the vicissitudes of weather there were no changes in the report this week. Same species, same places, and very little change in water temperatures. Bottom fishermen seem to be enjoying one of the finest autumn seasons in many years.

WESTERN SOUND

Jack's Bait on City Island was looking at tons of tautog with many fish in the 4-6 lb. range found in 12 to 16 ft. of water. Pea Island and Harts

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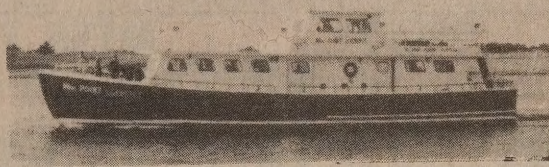
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were suggested. Chunkers were still taking blues around the Throgs Neck and off Steppingstone Light; there were still porgies among the blackfish. Flounder were just beginning to arouse local interest.

The **Glen Cove Sport Shop** liked the tautog fishing off Morgans and Prybles on green crab and fiddler baits. Ron Oldenburg did it again with a 15 lb. bass last week, too.

Dome Cerbone of the **Apache** figured that, although the blackfishing is pretty good, it's still not 100 percent. He's pleased by the number of big fish in waters to 40 feet and he's even finding blackfish in numbers in shallows 10 to 15 feet. Porgies are still all over the deeper reefs in 30 to 35 feet.

Knight had a pair of 9 lb. bluefish on bunker off the Northport dock and Tom Anguilla weighed a 21-8 alligator bluefish that smashed a popper in Huntington Bay. Mel Fleischmann told us that there were loads of blues in the 5 to 8 lb. class blasting the bunker at the Mill Dam Bridge.

George Valentine at **Four Winds** in Huntington Station interrupted the World Series to explain that all local areas seem to have tautog now and that fishing has improved dramatically. Tony Costa weighed the biggest fish of the week, an 8½ lber. taken near Marshall Field. There were large porgies off Eatons 11B with a mix of flounder to ¾ lbs. Bass results amounted to "a showing" of keepers to 7½ lbs. with a lot of shorts. Worms and worm trolling were mentioned as methods of choice. Slammer bluefish were bringing yawns from locals by this time, but memories should remain for years. Bobby Beck weighed a 21.1 from Huntington Harbor, and Graham Sneddecker had a 17.7 off Sand City. Billy Collins of the **Ever Ready** has been jigging smaller blues in the Triangle, but some very large

fish took the boat pools on Saturday and Friday, anyway, fish to 16 lbs.

Catches on the **Huntington** based open boat, **Ever Ready**, include a mixture of albacore, bonito, and bass, with scores of bluefish over the weekend. Saturday's catch was described as great, while Sunday continued very good, fish taking both diamond jigs and bait.

The **Carafitis Fishing Station** in Port Jefferson will have boats available through the coming weekend with bait on hand until Election Day. Tim Carafitis detailed fishing for a lot of small tautog with catches of 100 fish possible. There are a few large blackfish to 8 lbs. available plus porgies in the harbor. Larger scup are on the move now.

Ralph Davenport like the Middle Grounds for tautog and felt that the porgies were thinning out around **Ralph's Fishing Station** in Mount Sinai. Lots of blues were in shoreline reports, and a chunker pulled a 19.8 off the nearby docks.

Bill at the **Rocky Point Fishing Stop** told us that some local sharpies have begun to complain that they cannot

NORTH SHORE MID-ISLAND

Ilene Fleischmann from **Greenlawn Sport** called in the names of a number of successful sports on Sunday. Rick

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North Shore Anglers Club junior member, Robert Basile, holds the 10 lb. 6 oz. chopper he took inside Port Jeff Harbor on a live bunker. Subscriber photo.

find any blues bigger than 10 lbs. Tautog angling has picked up noticeably. There has been flounder activity near the beaches as well.

NORTH FORK

Captain Marty's in New Suffolk is still selling worms to flounder fishermen and frozen sand eels to snapper fishermen, but is not stocking any fresh skimmers. Phil Loria told us that there was still some fine fishing off New Suffolk Bridges for 12 inch snappers.

Jim Dunkirk at the **Port of Egypt** in Southold had no flounder reports west of East Marion, but he's been seeing a great many tautog from the Lighthouse at Orient. Best fish in the market weigh 9 to 10 lbs. There were still 3 to 4 lb. bluefish for those who jigged Jessups at the turn of the tide. The Station will be selling bait until just before Thanksgiving with the market open through December.

Both the **Mattituck Fishing Station** and the **Mattituck Inlet Fishing Stations** are closed for the season, but their local fishing conditions remain superb. Pods of large porgies were present off Duck Pond early last week and large numbers of mid-sized tautog moved into the Firing Range area in time for Columbus Day. Trollers produced sporadic bass among loads of bluefish. Ed Kopack at **Warrens Tackle Center** in Aque-

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bogue went out with Chris Cyprus and managed 4 bass to 15 lbs. in a tide. They were long-line wire lining with 3 oz. bucktails tipped with pork rind.

Art White at the **A.P. White Bait Shop** in Greenport had seen some large bass last week, fish of 42 and 44 lbs.

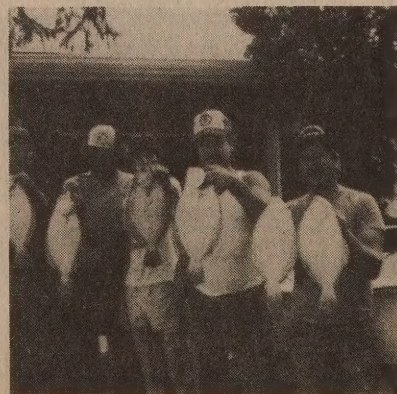
All East End Sources continued to rave about the blackfish action. George Porter of the **Brand X** called to say that this was "the best big fish season he's seen—this early. There are hundreds of fish in the 5-12 lb. class and loads of small fish, too." Porter is fishing deep water wrecks in 80 to 110 feet of water. "Greatest start, yet—and Sturday was horribly rough, but ... to show how good it is, it didn't bother the blackfish a bit!"

The **Peconic Star** found an unusual number of large porgies with the sensational hauls of tautog and had buckets of scup to 3½ pounds. Some of the largest porgies took green crab baits. Dave Brennan told us that Greg Drake's first tautog went 10.8 and won Sunday's pool by a whisker. Brennan was catching larger fish in 65 feet of water with smaller fish in deeper areas.

Larry Ciccotto of the **Prime Time III** FROM Orient called to detail what he felt was "spectacular, hot fishing, giant fish, three to four every day in the nine to twelve pound range. Green crabs are going like clam baits and fish are everywhere." Ciccotto also liked depths of sixty feet or so that he's been working with Clark Bellows. There are lots of genuine 1¼ and 1½ pound scup and even a few cod to four pounds mixed in.

Dan Buckley, Jr. of the **Nancy Ann**

II had never seen so many blackfish over ten pounds and had three himself last week. The boats best fish of the week pulled a spring scale down below fourteen pounds. Buckley told us that there are still a few openings for the night bass trips on the full moon over the weekend. Richie Jensen of the **Nancy Ann** has been mixing blacks and blues. One Friday trip had over two hundred tautog to twelve pounds in forty to eighty foot depths along with the biggest porgies of the year. Jensen explained that the tides will be slow this week until Friday when the effects of the full moon are felt. Most bluefish are still worked with diamond jigs, but a 19.12 was trolled along with eight keeper bass on umbrellas during a Saturday trip.



Dan Brandt, Steve Teer and the Billelo boys with fluke from 2 to 3½ lbs. taken inside Oyster Bay. Subscriber photo.

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FALL JUMBO BLUEFISHING
6:30 A.M. DAILY

Surf REPORT

with Fred Golofaro

There was no lack of action along much of the south shore surf this past week for those in the right place at the right time. While small fish (bass, blues and weaks) dominated the action, they kept plenty of casters happy. Paul Graniello at **J & J Tackle in Patchogue** said that chaos reigned in front of the National Seashore entrance and Smith Point on the weekend. Small blues, most 2 to 3 pounds with some to 7 along with a few weakfish, school bass, bonito and albacore provided red hot action much of the week as well as on Saturday and Sunday. Tins and tubes accounted for the bulk of the fish but poppers also accounted for some of the action. Among all the small fish, Gary Maher was able to sneak out a 30 pound striper on a Needlefish on Friday night. Nick Arena caught and released a 10 pound striper and dropped an estimated 15 pounder in the wash. This too on Needlefish. Neville Huggelmeir journeyed down to Long Cove on the National Seashore and caught a 9 pound albacore and 5 pound weakfish among a mess of blues. Lou Pagnoni managed to sneak a pair of 5 pound weaks out of all the blues on Sunday. On Saturday John Rossi and Mickey Russo took a load of blues to 5 pounds along with a few weakfish on tins from in front of the Smith Point Pavillion. Joe Modica and Andy Torre trekked down to the inlet on Friday night and using Bombers and darters landed blues of 12½ and 14 pounds. They also told of dropping a bunch of fish. The biggest blue of the week was imported from Mattituck. Bob Drake weighed a 20.7 pound chopper on Tuesday. It was taken on a bunker chunk.

Bob Schlichter, Jr., brother of Fisherman staffer Tom Schlichter, hung around after dark at Smith Point on Sunday and managed to drill an 18 pound striper from the suds. He also had several small blues after the sun went down.

From **J & R Sports Center in Oakdale** came word of a 40 pound striper taken at 2AM Friday morning by Michael Bove at Robert Moses parking field 2. According to Dave Canale, the big striper was taken on a bunker chunk.

From **Captree Bait and Tackle**, Noel Kappauf reported the big news concerned the weekend's Annual Bluefish Derby. A complete follow-up on the event with a listing of all the winners will appear in an upcoming issue of The Fisherman—so stay tuned. Noel did weigh a couple of significant bluefish during the week. Nine



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year old Michael McGarvey and his sixteen year old sister Kelly Ann both broke into surf fishing in grand fashion last Monday. Using live eels at West End 2, Michael beached a 14 pound blue while Kelly settled for an 11 pound chopper.

Several sources reported rumors of some bass action at Gilgo during the week and particularly on Friday with a couple of fish into the teens taken here. Most were apparently shorts and schoolies but at least two sources spoke of a fish in the 40 pound class rumored to be taken at Gilgo.

Bobby Turtarello at **Causeway Bait and Tackle in Wantagh** reported that many casters cashed in on a fine run of big blues from the Jones Beach Piers that lasted most of last week. He said that blues to 18 pounds were taken on chunks from Tuesday through Friday. Tuesday and Wednesday saw big blues taken in good numbers on tin and bait at West End 2. Friday morning saw a fair number of stripers from shorts into the low teens taken at Parking Field 6—Jones Beach on Ava 27s and red tubes. The inlet side of Jones Beach produced some blues on surface plugs Saturday morning. Sunday appeared to be quiet in the local surf according to Bob.

The most impressive fish taken in the surf this past week must have been the 51 pound 6 ounce striper taken by Brian Nacht Saturday evening in Atlantic Beach. Charlie Beckmann of **Beckmann's Tackle in Lynbrook** who reported the big striper was especially pleased with the catch since it was taken on a Beckmann's custom rod purchased just a week before. Brian told Charlie that the fish was taken Saturday evening before dark on an unspecified plug. Charlie weighed another notable striper this week. On Thursday, Frank Hay, a newcomer to the surf game, worked a yellow Superstrike Needlefish from the east end of Long Beach and connected with his first bass ever. He won't soon forget his first striper as the cow checked in at a hefty 37 pounds. Charlie confirmed the good bluefish action at West End 2 on Tuesday and Wednesday. His 16 year old nephew Bill Beckmann Jr., got his first taste of surf fishing on Wednesday when he nailed a 14 pound chopper on a bunker chunk in front of the West End 2 parking lot. He and his dad Bill, Sr., told Charlie they dropped several other big blues as well.

The south fork was alive with small blues and a smattering of weaks and bass according to Chris Salb of **Bayview Marine and Tackle in Sag Harbor**. Bluefish provided wild action for several hours on Sunday near Georgica in East Hampton as Chris got in on the action himself. While his catch was confined to blues he watched Mike Leddy nail a pair of 12 pound stripers and reported seeing some weaks taken as well. While most of the blues were in the 4 pound range, some larger fish were mixed in. Chris' best weighed in at 11 pounds. Jig and tube combos and tins were the ticket

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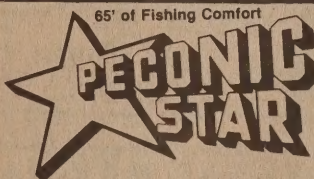
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for most of the fish.

Out in **Montauk**, small fish dominated the action here as well. Most of the blues on the south side and up front have been in the 2 to 4 pound class with occasional bigger fish being taken after dark. There are still some weaks being taken at the Point. A few were reported taken up front, in the Fort and on the south side. Johnny Kronuch of **Johnny's Tackle Shop** in Montauk said that most casters have been stocking up on 6" Bombers, 5 1/2" Redfins and small darters. At least a couple of decent fish were checked in. John Skidmore clicked with a 25 pound striper on the weekend while Steve Golofaro nailed a 32 pound bass. On Friday night, Westchester police officer John Donovan used a yellow darter to drill a 12 1/2 pound weak from the suds.

Freshwater REPORT with Tom Schlichter

A very good week from a freshwater point of view. With the exception of trout, which began their spawning period this week, most species proved cooperative. Catches of largemouth bass and carp were especially invigorating. Pickerel catches remained steady as did panfish and white perch put in their first real appearance of the fall season. In the Nissequague River, the first sea run browns were reported taken at Mid-week.

From **Causeway Bait and Tackle** in Wantagh, Mike Nicoletti reports that pickerel fishing in the Twin Lakes has



Joan and Lowell Eidman with salmon and lakers taken out of Port Ontario aboard the Viking. Photo courtesy of Causeway Bait and Tackle in Wantagh.

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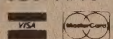
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slacked off somewhat, however, small to medium sized bass have moved in to till the gap. Mike sampled the action himself this week and scored with three small bass. Use live killies for the fastest action. Carp fishing is still red hot as Bob McGrath proved when he weighed in two fish, largest 15 pounds, on Tuesday. A few crappies are being taken but catches are erratic.

Fred Laager, over at **Edelman's Sportsman's Center** in Farmingdale, reports that Wayne Bisso fished the

Mill Falls section of the Connetquot River this week where he used super visors to connect with two 15" rainbows. Across the Island, in the tidal section of the Nissequogue River north of Landing Lane, Mike Munson used Daredevil "skeeters" to entice brown trout of 13" and 16". These fish were taking on the outgoing tide and the larger one was a silver, sea run fish.

Mike Andreani of **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle**, informed us that a few guys were doing a number on

Southard's Pond largemouths. Big Y and Bobby O used spinner baits and rapalas to nail bass of four and 3.2 pounds respectively. They also managed a half dozen pickerel. Locally, the first white perch have been taken in the tidal creeks. While only a few have been reported, these fish are a little ahead of schedule and it looks like a good season shaping up.

Carp were the name of the game this week for Ray Roberts who weighed in four fish to sixteen pounds

(Continued on page 55.)

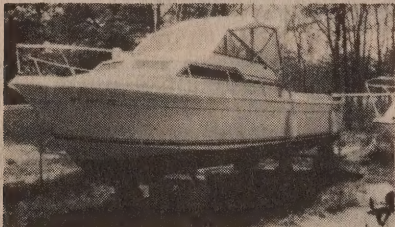
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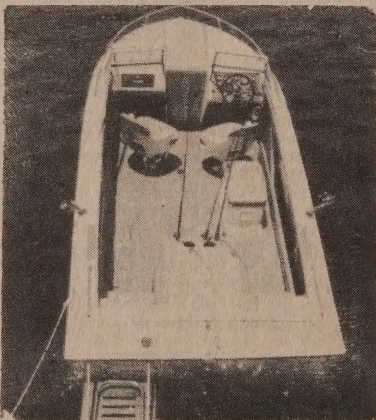
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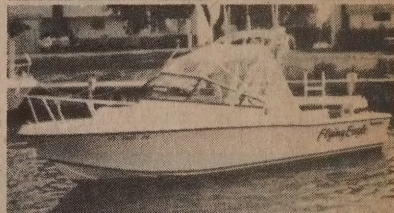
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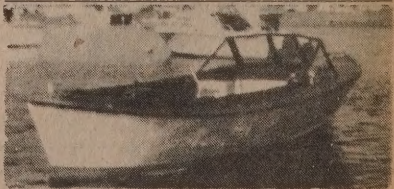
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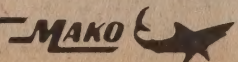
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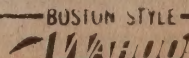
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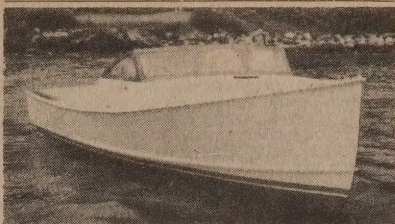
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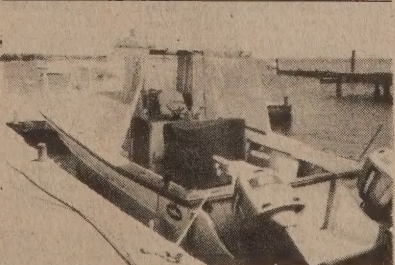
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**Continued
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SEA CRAFT 20, SF CC, 150 hp Evinrude. Depth finder, VHF. Outrigger, downrigger. New canvas. In water. \$7500. Days: 516-283-2047. Eves: 516-283-2839.

STARCRAFT 22' Deep V cuddy 1982, 140 OMC. Loaded. Well maintained. DAVE BOFILL Marine, 516-283-6736.



36' CHRIS CRAFT Tournament fish, 1977, twin 330. 500 hrs. Generator, radar, Loran, VHF, temp, log, recorder. Much more. Maintained to highest standards. Winter storage inc. Sacrifice. 516-765-1641.

CANOE & DINGYS: On sale now! Also 2 hp Evinrudes, as low as \$189 w/purchase of boat. AL GROVER'S, 516-378-0510.

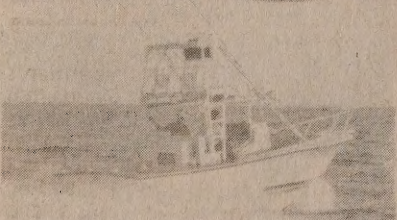
GRADY WHITE 204C '79 w/'84 115 hp Yamaha. Full warranty. Chart recorder, VHF. Much more. Very clean. \$10,800. K&K OUTBOARD, 516-431-1865.

STRIKER Canyon Runner 34', 1975, T555s. Etta Mae has all electronics & fishing equip. Days: 516-349-1700. Eves: 516-826-8370.

USED 671n GM Diesel. Compl. w/Allison 1.5:1 gear. MONTAUK MARINE BASIN INC., 516-668-5900.

One pr. Chris Craft engines 327 Q, motors approx. 1100 hrs. Run like clocks. Incl. 2 1/2 to 1 Paragon clutches & mechanical tachometers. Compl. FWC, heavy duty cast iron pans, etc. Asking \$2000 for both. POLYCHRON MARINA, 914-632-4088. Ask for Brett or Leroy.

30' ULRICHSEN Sportfisherman, 250 hp Chrysler, FWC, Flybridge, VHF, depthfinder. In water; to go. Bklyn. 718-DE 9-3054.



24' RAMPAGE Tournament, full Pipe Welders tower, VHF, chart recorder, Volvo 260 I/B. This boat is loaded & ready for serious fishing. Many other Rampages in stock. NORTHROP YACHT SALES, 203-226-1915.

1985 4 WINNS 23' Family Cruiser, 200 hp Mercruiser. Loaded w/extras. 11 hrs. old. Slip incl. \$18,995 terms avail. 516-924-0035.

31' BERTRAM
1980 Twin Diesel 400 hrs. Radar, Loran, VHF, recorder. Digital depth, temperature, T/T. Constavolt, speed log, washdown. Outriggers, gin pole, 2 Pompanette chairs. Replacement \$150,000. Save thousands. Very clean. 516-242-3642.

BAYHEAD MARINA: Mariner, Mercruiser, Volvo. Special! Rebuilt Mercruiser trim cylinder \$95. w/core. 718-525-5724.

17' MFG, 1983 90 hp Johnson PT/T. Approx. 40 hrs. 1980 Shoreline trailer. Compass, CB. Full canvas. All excl. 516-472-9298.

21' WINNER Viscount '73, 120 Mercruiser I/O, cuddy. New canvas; just overhauled. Asking \$5788. 516-249-0107.

1982 MARINER 15 hp Long shaft w/6 gal. tank. Like new cond. \$950. 516-473-7391.

1979 30' TROJAN, 2 FWC engs. Flybridge, Bimini top. Sleeps 6. VHF radio, 2 DF, Loran C. Low hrs., etc. Must sell. New boat coming. Best offer over \$30,000. 718-625-3921/494-0015.

All 1985 EVINRUDES—Sale prices w/extended warranties. MARINELAND, Long Beach, 516-889-5000.

1982 STAMAS 32' Sportcruiser. Bridge w/Bimini. T255 Mercruisers, FWC, 2-station tabs, engine syncs, depthfinder & fume sniffers. VHF, color TV w/remote antenna. Swim platform & ladder. Hot shower, canvas. Low hrs. Custom extras. After 7PM & Wknds: 516-567-6733. Must sell. Reduced \$20,000.

27' PHOENIX 1980 225 Chrysler engines. Tower. Loaded offshore fishing machine. Priced to sell. Days: 212-246-4074. Nites: 516-997-7438.

1972 22.2 AQUASPORT CC. Yard maintained. Electronic box plus many extras. Need engine. \$3000. Eves: 718-531-3464.

WANTED—Johnson, Evinrude O/Bs. Any cond. Will pick up. Used parts available. 516-981-6487.

1982 SHAMROCK Pilot House, 20' Camper canvas, 302 Pleasurecraft, 160 hrs. T/T, new Loran, new VHF, digital DF & much more. 516-727-1137/2511. Bruce.

1982 21' PROLINE center console, 1984 115 hp, VRO Evinrude w/extended warranty. Very low hrs. SST prop, spray hood, rod holders. In water. Mint cond. Eves: 516-432-5336.



SHAMROCK Keel Drive I/Bs 17', 20' & 26'. Shamrock H.T. 25'9 250 hp P.C.M. 5 models. SOUTH SHORE BOATS, 516-288-2400.

1973 MARLIN, Aluminum trailer. Full mooring cover. Excl. cond. \$2500. 516-277-5185.

REGAL 1984 20' Empress 200 XL, cuddy. Sleeps 4. 228 Mercruiser. Loaded; immaculate. 516-481-5579.

19' BOSTON WHALER Outrage 1973, twin Evinrudes 65 hp. Galv. trailer, P/W, VHF, Si-Tex D.R. Extras. \$7900. 516-668-3095. 718-987-1512.

SEA OX 23' 1983 Walkaround cuddy. 235 hp w/economizer, 9.9 hp elec. start, CB & VHF radios. Si-Tex recorder & flashing depth & Loran in custom teak cabinet. Water temp. gauge, 2 custom teak tackle lockers, SW washdown, dual batt. Full canvas. Better than new. \$20,900. After 6PM: 203-438-5517.

32' PACEMAKER FBSF, Mercks, Loran, recorder. Fish rigged, excl. cond. Freeport. 516-599-2309 or 718-698-5405. Eves.

BAYHEAD MARINA BOAT SALES: Mariner, Mercruiser, Volvo. Performer & Mitchcraft boats. Factory auth. sales & service. Factory certified mechanics. 718-525-5724.

BOATING EQUIP.

BOAT TRAILER REPAIR. Complete w/all new galvanized parts. FAZIO MFG., INC., 1121-16 Lincoln Av, Holbrook, NY 11741. 516-583-2263.

COMPASSES—COMPASSES—COMPASSES
Remember, if it has anything to do with compasses at all, give me a call! Huge inventory of Ritchie compasses. Expert installation & adjustment. Authorized repair service. I also carry a complete line of binoculars, sextants, clocks, barometers. JENS JACOBS NAUTICAL SERVICE, 516-757-7169.

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CUSTOM MARINE WOODWORK. No job too small—tackle lockers, instrument enclosures, consoles, bow pulpits, etc. Interior & exterior repairs & restorations. CUSTOM MARINE CARPENTRY, 516-623-1639.

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BOAT TRAILERS FOR RENT: Single & Tandem Axle. Daily, weekly, monthly rates. Temporary & permanent hitches for sale or rent. BARN TRAILER SERVICE, 57-05 B'Way, Woodside, NY. 718-426-7039.

SI-TEX RECORDER Fish Finder Model HE-30. Almost new. Original carton. No transducer. \$125. 266-3697 or 349-2810. Mr. Schwartz.

HERCULES 6 cy. Diesel & Gears. Running cond. Recently bench tested. Will trade for fishing gear or \$650. Bill: 516-567-4104/668-3509.

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PROPELLERS-3. Nichrome 16/17. Completely reconditions. 1-1/8" shaft. Fits 28 Bertram. \$300. 516-746-2508. Larry.

Never Used—Raritan Electric head w/Mansfield TDX sanitation device, 12 volt. \$495. Gene Giffords, 582-4566. 8-5.

TRAILER HITCHES—The most complete Draw-Tite line of Class I & II hitches in stock on Long Island. Sales, installations & service. TOM CASH WELDING, Lake Ronkonkoma. 516-JU 8-6143.

VHF/FM radio, Horizon Ltd. Model 861S. 24 channel; 8" Shakespeare antenna. Extra rail mount. Like new-\$150. 516-223-0676.

FISHING TACKLE

WANTED TO BUY: International 50W and/or 80W with/without rods. Good cond.; reasonable price. After 6PM: 516-623-7703.

CRACK OR LUXOR Reels Wanted. Any cond. Top dollar paid. Also surf rods 10' & over. Dave, 281-5815.

SURF & BOAT—rods, reels, plugs, rod building supplies & more. Eves by appt. only. 368-0083.

KUSTOM KRAFT RODS. Order now for Xmas. Bluefish/weakfish rods a specialty. Repairs. Eves: 421-1337.

VERY EXPENSIVE—Very Expensive—Very Expensive. Edelman's is NOT very expensive. See ad on Page 2.

MOLDED ROD WINDING "Vee Blocks" High impact material, will not scratch any rod blank. Clearance for largest guide; fine enough for the smallest. Set of 2 w/instructions & mounting hardware. Free bonus—tension device hardware. \$10 prepaid check or M.O.: R.A.F. TRADING CORP., 101 Albany Av, Dept. F, Freeport, New York 11520.

DEADLY FLOUNDER RIGS
Tangle-free, tandem tied w/special stand-off knot. Used by sharpies. Sproat hooks for more hook-ups. 3/3.75 inc. p/h. BILL SMITH, 159 Vermont Ave., Bay Shore, NY 11706.

DALE CLEMENS Custo Rod Bldg. Supplies exclusively at LINDENHURST BAIT & TACKLE. Extra 10% discount w/Ad. 226-9030.

#6 SPROAT Flounder Hooks. Hand tied 6!1. AL KAPLAN, 35-63 80th St., Jackson Hgts, NY 11372.

FLOUNDER KILLER RIGS. Flounder are committing suicide on this famous 3-hook rig especially designed for the meat fisherman. Special design & constructions keeps tangles at a minimum. All handmade finest quality material. 3 completely tied rigs-\$3.90. Send check or M.O. to: P. MILLER, 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566. Our 13th Year.

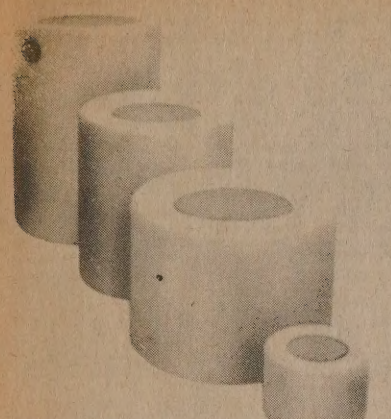
MISCELLANEOUS

LIVE BAIT EELS
Available to retailers & fishermen at wholesale prices. \$1 per lb.; 10 lb. minimum. Stock up now. 516-581-3563.

MERCURUISER ENGINES & Sterndrives repaired, overhauled & winterized. Rebuilt outdrives for sale. HIGHLAND MARINE, 516-587-7567.

SANDBLASTING Boat Bottoms our specialty: fiberglass, steel or wood. Also homes. No job too small. 516-226-2041.

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Legal game heads for sale. INWOOD TAXIDERM, 20 Madison Ave., Inwood, NY 11996; 516-239-7716.



LIVE BAIT WELLS, pumps & accessories. For free brochure, send \$.25 p/h. **THE CADDY CO.**, 57 Bayonne Av, Dept. E, Central Islip, NY 11722; 516-234-0144.

GOVERNMENT JOBS \$16,040-\$59,230/Yr. Now hiring. 805-687-6000, Ext. R-3617 for current Federal list.

AVAILABLE at last! Beautiful full color print of artist Gary Patterson's famous painting "Half Day Boat." You won't believe detail & crazy activities going on aboard. If you've ever fished on party boats you'll really love this print. Size 18"x24". Looks fantastic framed. Only \$9.95 + \$1 p/h to: **P. MILLER**, 150 Babylon Tpke, Merrick, NY 11566.

ATTENTION BAIT FISHERMEN—Worm-Man now back in business. Are you paying high prices for your bait? Then call the Worm-Man at 1-718-423-5923 for sandworms or bloodworms. \$1.80 dz. Call for orders & times open.

GOVERNMENT HOMES from \$1; U repair. Also delinquent tax property. For information: 805-687-6000, Ext. GH-3617.

HOUSE PAINTING: Interior & Exterior by Jack "The Painter" Murray. Let us paint while you fish. 516-273-0960.

at **Augie's Bait and Tackle, Babylon**. According to Tom, Ray used his "patented" bread ball baits and eight pound test setup to whip these fish at Babylon's Argyle Lake. Local anglers have also reported taking a few pickerel from various lakes.

Fred Kruse, of **Pine Grove Outfitters**, reports that bass fishing has still not broken loose on Lake Ronkonkoma, however, a few anglers are scoring on occasion. Doc Bardik connected with a 5 1/4 pound bigmouth on Tuesday. Panfishing remains good and carp fishing has been excellent. A Mr. Slenk and Mr. Bizjuk, both of Brooklyn, weighed in carp of fifteen and twenty pounds during the week.

At Caleb Smith State Park in Smittown, Mike Venuti informs us that the trout action has really died down because the fish have begun to spawn. Mike wanted us to let everyone know that the season for this beautiful piece of the river comes to a close on October 31st. Thanks to all for a successful season.

Over at **J&R Bait and Tackle** in **Oakdale**, Dave told us that although he had no specifics, he knew anglers were still catching 8-14" trout at Bubbles Falls and Rattlesnake Creek.

Joey, at **J&J Bait and Tackle** in **Patchogue** reports that Danny Seibert scored with bass of 6.6 and 7.10 pounds on Sunday. The larger one is

GENERATOR Kohler Marine gasoline 6.5 KW. Excl. cond. Factory rebuilt; like new. Will Demo. \$2300. 718-441-6725. 516-623-6148.

WANTED: Reliable netter to supply me with freshly caught sand eels & shiners. 281-4159. Delivered Suffolk area.

BAYHEAD MARINA: Winter storage, boats & motors. All winter services avail. Factory certified mechanics. 718-525-5724.

WINTER STORAGE

Up to 28'. Winterizations. Mercruiser, OMC. Parts; service. Authorized Volvo Penta dealer. **HARBOR MARINE CORP.**, Copiague. 789-8789.

ILLUSIONS Boat Polishing. Seal & protect your boat from Old Man Winter. Free estimates. Chuck: 516-665-2271.

SUNSHINE Charter Boat, 25', 1-6 passengers. All equip. Full electronics. All accommodations. **CAPT. PAUL** for reservations: 516-488-5505.

FULLY LICENSED CAPTAIN—water deliveries, boat/navigation instruction; charters & trips. 516-795-4498.

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Personalized Surf Fishing instruction with LIF Editor & Surf Fishing columnist, Fred Golofaro. North & South Shores; Montauk. One or two anglers—day & night trips. All tackle supplied. 516-581-0077.



NORTH SHORE TRAP CO., St. James, NY. 516-584-6870. Vinyl coated lobster, crab, eel traps & all lobstering equip.

the new leader of the shops season long contest. A few white perch are beginning to show in the tidal creeks but that's about all for now.

From his **Sportsman's Center** in **Medford**, Al Schreier told us that the freshwater scene has really picked up this week. Fishing for perch in the Peconic River has been excellent and bass fishing in the Yaphank Lakes is good also. A few trout have been taken at Lower Yaphank on worm

RECORDER PAPER at substantial savings. Prices for 6 rolls: Si-Tex 4"—\$23. Lowrance X-15-\$24. All others avail. p/h \$2.50 add'l. NJ res. add 6% sales tax. Send check or M.O. to: **JP PAPER CO.**, P.O. Box 149, Pompton Lakes, NJ 07442. 201-838-9324.

SALT WATER SPORTSMAN Magazines—compl. sets 1963-1984. Eves by appt. only. 368-0083.

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TACKLE STORE: Vacant bus. property by Bay Shore Marina. Ideal for tackle shop and/or coffee shop. Ed: 516-234-4466.

GETAWAY TO MONTAUK: Magnificent ocean-view apartment. Sleeps 6. Kitchenette, pool, maid service. Week; month; season. Pam: 516-543-3232.

BABYLON Village, waterfront. 3BR Ranch. Half block to Great South Bay. Principals only. 516-669-6921.

WATERFRONT

CENTER MORICHES: Rental—custom built 4 BR Ranch w/new fully equip. deep water dock in back yard. Just minutes from fishing grounds & beaches by boat. Incl. membership in private beach club. \$1200 per mon. 516-878-4865.

RENTAL: Green County, Hunter Mt. 1BR Condo. Sleeps 6. Ski out front door. Hunting, fishing, foliage. Season Nov. 15-April 15. \$3000 + Sec., elect., TV Cable incl. 516-367-4942.

BEACH BUGGIES

1972 GMC 3/4 ton Truck, 4WD, 1972 Mobile Traveler slide-in camper. Sleeps 6. Refrig, 3-burner stove & oven. Shower; self-contained toilet. Extra storage. Low 60,000 miles; 350 engine. 4 speed transmission; 8 cyl. Rigged for fishing. \$5500. 516-546-0299/277-4472.

1984 S-10 BLAZER, 4X4, V6, 5 speed, PS, PB, AC. Tinted glass; cruise control. Black on black. Many more. \$11,995. Joe: 516-725-4200.

1983 S-10 BLAZER, 4X4, V6, 5 speed, black and gold, aluminum wheels. CB radio. Fully equip. 21,000 miles. \$9995. 516-352-5923.

baits.

George Rose of the **Fisherman's Deli** in **Riverhead** complained that since the hurricane Gloria passed this way, there has been a lack of freshwater anglers trying their luck out east. George went out himself on Monday and culled five bass and pickerel in about an hour and a half from behind the shop. Small spinners, such as the Vibrex Blue Fox, were the ticket.

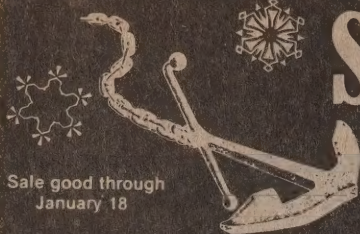
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Signed: Richard S. Reina, Vice-President



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January 18

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60% OFF

FAMOUS "N.A. TAYLOR" BLUE POLY WINTER STORAGE COVERS

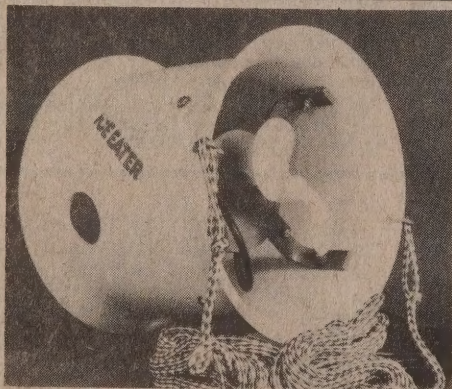
The Original not an imitation! The best light-weight storage cover you can buy. Both sides are coated with polyethylene, making the covers virtually rip-proof. Double stitched polyethylene rope lined hems grommeted approximately every three feet. 1 year warranty.

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"If cover rips, it will be replaced with a new one"

Boat Size	Cover Size	List	SALE	Boat Size	Cover Size	List	SALE
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Up to 19'	12 x 22	\$47.52	\$18.74	Up to 30'	25 x 40	\$180.00	\$71.00
Up to 21'	12 x 25	\$54.00	\$21.30	Up to 35'	30 x 50	\$270.00	\$106.50
Up to 23'	15 x 25	\$67.50	\$26.62	Sisal Line	1/4 x 100	\$3.98	\$2.99

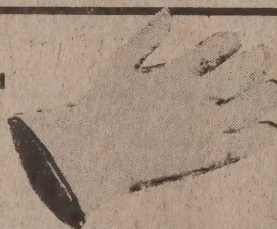
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Non-toxic anti-freeze, specially designed for cold
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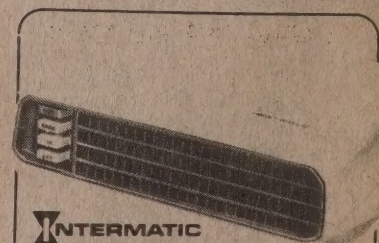
Protects outboard motors, marine engines and other in-
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The stabilizer containing a powerful anti-oxidant,
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Size	Order No.	List	SALE
8 oz. treats 24 gals.	MDR 550	\$4.89	\$3.69
Pint Treats 48 gals.	MDR 551	\$6.95	\$5.19
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750/1500 Watts, 120 Volts,
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